



Congress parliamentary board chief **Sonia Gandhi** is the only invitee from party's first family to the temple consecration ceremony, as siblings **Rahul** and **Priyanka** ostensibly do not qualify to receive invitations based on the criteria set by the trust, **P 16**

Union home minister **Amit Shah** instructs officials to strengthen counter-terror operations in J&K and stresses complete elimination of the terror ecosystem, **P 18**

South Korean opposition Democratic Party leader **Lee Jae-myung**, 59, has been stabbed in the neck by a man who lunged at him with a knife after asking for his autograph. Lee is currently in ICU, **P 22**

TN has received 2.5 times more central funds in the past decade from BJP govt than during 10 yrs preceding 2014 when UPA was in office, PM Modi says while inaugurating the new terminal building at Trichy int'l airport and also a slew of projects worth ₹20k cr, **P 16**



# THE TIMES OF INDIA

INCLUSIVE OF DELHI TIMES (CIRCULATED ONLY IN DELHI NCR) | \*APPLICABLE ONLY ON MONTHLY PURCHASE (IN DELHI NCR)

INDIA'S LARGEST ENGLISH NEWSPAPER

## Hamas dy head killed in blast

A blast in Beirut Tuesday killed Hamas deputy head **Saleh Arouri**, who headed the group's presence in the West Bank, and three others, officials of the Palestinian militant arm said. Reports say the blast was carried out by an Israeli drone. **P 22**

## Biometrics, frisking after JEE toilet break

Those taking JEE (Main) this month will be frisked and their biometric attendance taken even after a toilet break. NTA staff, too, will be frisked as rules are tightened for the exams that have seen 12.3L registrations. **P 11**

## Harvard prez quits over Gaza protests

Harvard University President **Claudine Gay** resigned on Tuesday after coming under attacks for her handling of anti-Semitism protests over Gaza and allegations that she had plagiarised in her academic work. **P 22**

## 'CAA rules to be notified before polls'

The rules for CAA will be notified before this year's LS polls are announced, a government official said Tuesday. The MHA is exploring an online system for application, processing and grant of citizenship. **P 9**

## Father kills girl & her boyfriend in UP

A man hacked her daughter, 19, and her boyfriend, 20, to death in UP's Budaun Tuesday. He was against the relationship—the two were neighbours and from the same community—and was upset they met at 4am. **P 16**

# SC stays memo allowing post facto green nod for projects

## Law Stipulates Prior Approval, Say Petitioners

Dhananjay Mahapatra @timesgroup.com

New Delhi: The Supreme Court Tuesday stayed the operation of a January 2022 office memorandum of the ministry of environment, forest and climate change allowing ex post facto environment clearance to projects that allegedly had a grave impact on the ecology. These were availed of mainly by mining lease holders.

Appearing for NGO 'Vanashakti', senior advocate **Gopal Shankaranarayanan** told a bench of Justices **B R Gavai** and **Sandeep Mehta** that the

### IN THE COURTS

> City court issues notice to Delhi police on bail plea of **Parliament breach accused Neelam Azad** in which she alleged she was produced in court 29 hrs after arrest | **P 10**

> Denied job in two schools, transgender woman moves SC. 'We will do something,' assures CJI-led bench | **P 10**

> Wife entitled to divorce on grounds of physical cruelty if forcibly subjected to sexual perversions by husband, rules Kerala high court | **P 10**

> Why does an accused person have to strip in lock-up, asks Bombay HC | **P 9**

> Woman denied relief as Apple argues that damage to laptop due to coffee spill not part of accident cover | **P 10**

very concept of ex post facto clearance — i.e. clearance after the projects had begun — was an anathema to the Environment Protection Act, which mandated environment clearance prior to starting work on a project.

The counsel said the Environment Impact Assessment notification of 2006 insists on prior environment clearance

for all projects and told the court the problem started with an office memorandum of 2017 which provided a six-month window for alleged violators to apply for post facto clearance.

The SC entertained the petition, issued notice to the ministry, and stayed the 2022 OM till further orders.

> Prior & post facto..., **P 24**

## SC: Bihar caste survey data must be made public

The Supreme Court on Tuesday said the Bihar government should make the findings of its caste survey public as it was taking policy decisions, such as enhancing reservation for OBCs, on the basis of this data. This would allow people to challenge a particular inference reached by the state, it said.

"The question is to what extent can the government withhold the breakup of the data," the bench said, pointing out that it was more worried about the break-up than the survey report itself. The matter has been posted for January 29. **P 10**

### CRIME FILES

> A Meerut court sentences a woman, **Afshana Begum**, to life term for killing her neighbour, **Zeena Begum**, by setting her on fire to show herself as dead so that she could elope with her lover from a different faith. Testimony by **Zeena's** 13-year-old daughter proved crucial in nailing the convict | **P 9**

> Chennai police have arrested a gym trainer on suspicion that he faked his own death by killing a man who matched his physical description to claim a life insurance payout | **P 9**

> The body of a 13-yr-old girl, missing since Dec 20, has been found in the Yamuna river under Mathura district's Sadar police station area. The girl's family told police that she was being stalked by a youth | **P 16**

## MIRACLE IN TOKYO: 379 ESCAPE JET INFERNO



All 367 flyers and 12 crew were evacuated from a passenger jet that burst into flames on landing after colliding with a coast guard aircraft at Tokyo's Haneda airport on Tuesday. A clip on social media showed flames licking the Airbus 350's main cabin door and smouldering debris falling from the fuselage onto the tarmac before the crew calmly evacuated passengers via escape slides. Seventeen flyers were injured. However, 5 of the 6 crew of the smaller plane, which was taking off for Japan's west coast with aid following Monday's quake that killed at least 55 people, perished | **P 22**

## Truckers' strike set to end after govt assurance on accident law

New Delhi: Stepping in to defuse the situation, the home ministry enlisted the support of the All India Motor Transport Congress (AIMTC), and jointly appealed to truckers to end their strike. Truck drivers are now expected to be back on the roads from Wednesday, ending a potential crisis in transport of essential goods.

"The provisions of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita have

> EDITORIAL: Wheels Within Wheels, **P 20**

not been implemented so far. We will consult AIMTC whenever we implement Section 106 (2) of the law (which deals with higher penalty in hit-and-



The nationwide strike, ongoing since Monday, led to long queues at petrol pumps, traffic disruptions, shortages in LPG cylinders, increased vegetable prices, and delays in public transport on Tuesday | **P 11**

run cases)," home secretary **Ajay Bhalla** said after meeting representatives of the lobby group representing transporters. **Bal Malikit Singh**, AIMTC

core committee chairman, said he expected drivers to return to work Wednesday. **TNN**

> 'Applies to all cases', **P 11**

## Will CM appear before ED? AAP weighs legal options

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Aam Aadmi Party was non-committal on whether party boss and Delhi CM **Arvind Kejriwal** would appear before the Enforcement Directorate on Wednesday to record his statement in a case of alleged money laundering related to the excise case for which the party is being investigated.

Asked by reporters, party sources said they were examining legal options and would act as per the law. **Kejriwal** had skipped ED's summons for November 2 and December 21.

It was a query from the Supreme Court as to why the agency had not questioned

### 'TO ACT AS PER LAW'

> ED summons to **Kejriwal** to appear today; AAP sources say he'll act as per law

> CM had skipped ED summons for Nov 2 and Dec 21

> If CM gives a statement, it will be considered an affidavit

the AAP leadership in connection with the excise policy case when it had alleged that the bribes were used for the Goa campaign that led the ED to inform the court that it intended to question AAP's leadership, setting the stage for **Kejriwal's** summons.

> 'Treated as affidavit', **P 4**

## 5 of patrol party injured in Manipur attack

Four police commandos and a BSF trooper were wounded on Tuesday when militants suspected to be from a Myanmar-based outfit fired rocket-propelled grenades at a joint patrol in the border town of **Moreh** in Manipur's **Tengnoupal** district, making this the fourth consecutive day of violence in the state, reports **Prabin Kalita**. **CMN Biren Singh** accused "foreign mercenaries" of trying to stoke a conflict that was dying out, identifying the perpetrators as being possibly from the **Kuki National Army**, **Burma (KNA-B)**. "Multiple sources have told us this," he said. **P 15**

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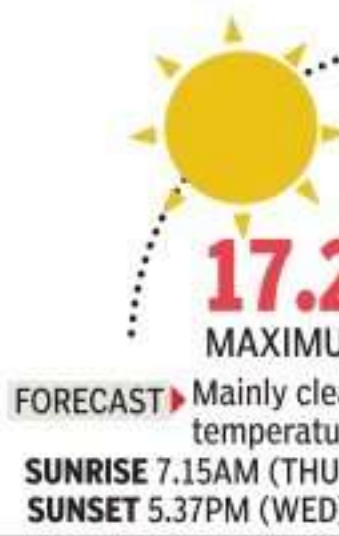
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Lodhi Road sees season's first 'cold day' | 4



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3 men held in ₹5-crore fake note bust | 3

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AQI IN DELHI ON TUESDAY (VERY POOR CATEGORY)

DMRC complains to police over obstruction caused to closing of coach doors | 5



# Road To Legal Tag May Lead Through 3 Colonies

**MCD PILOT:** Street Network Prepared By SPA For These Localities As Per MPD

## On the ground, regularisation plans evoke mixed reactions

Siddhanta Mishra  
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**New Delhi:** The Municipal Corporation of Delhi plans to start a pilot project to regularise unauthorised colonies as per provisions of Master Plan Delhi 2041 (MPD).

According to sources, the three colonies of East Azad Nagar, Swaroop Nagar and Khirki Extension have been identified for regularisation and road network plans have been prepared for these places. MCD had commissioned the road network blueprint to the School of Planning and Architecture, which has submitted its results to the civic body. The road plans include passages with a minimum width of 6 metres and maximum of 12 metres.

On December 20, Parliament passed a bill to protect the unauthorised colonies in Delhi from punitive actions such as sealing and demolition for the next three years till December 2026. The move is likely to bring huge relief to lakhs of people who are living in such informal settlements.

Within these three settlements, MCD proposes roads that are 12-metre wide and 9-metre wide. The basic require-

### WINDS OF CHANGE

No. of plots that will be affected, according to the plan

No. of plots affected

2,020

648

346

3,133

Total plots affected

77

42

500+

SIZE (in sqm)

50 100 250 500 500+

SWAROOP NAGAR

514

532

244

82

30

500+

SIZE (in sqm)

50 100 250 500 500+

KHIRKI EXTENSION

12

42

44

1

0

500+

SIZE (in sqm)

50 100 250 500 500+

EAST AZAD NAGAR

99

Total plots affected

12 42 44 1 0

50 100 250 500 500+

SIZE (in sqm)

50 100 250 500 500+

SIZE (in sqm)

50 100 250 500 500+

SIZE (in sqm)

50 100 250 500 500+

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SIZE (in sqm)



Photo: Rajesh Mehta

ols, a police station, a Delhi Jal Board office and a stadium are proposed to be constructed and the land required for these buildings in the colonies has been identified and divided into plots for each category.

Over the years, different governments have been working towards providing basic infrastructure like roads, sewerage and electricity to residents of unauthorised colonies. Besides MCD, the urban development department of Delhi government is another agency that takes up developmental work in such residential areas.

Unauthorised colonies in Delhi have been in existence right from the time the planned development of Delhi started with the setting up of Delhi Development Authority in 1957. Habitations came up without official approval when DDA was unable to construct enough low-cost housing and there was large-scale migration to Delhi from the neighbouring states.

Today, there are around 1,071 such areas in the capital, all developed without following the building and civic regulations and in violation of the master plans. It is estimated that around seven lakh families live in these unauthorised colonies.

**New Delhi:** The prospect of East Azad Nagar being regularised in a pilot project by MCD, officially unconfirmed as yet, left residents there with mixed feelings. They heartily welcomed the benefits such a step would bring to their east Delhi colony, but also expressed opposition to the possible razing of some shops and homes.

Situated close to Geeta Colony and Krishna Nagar, East Azad Nagar has narrow lanes lined with shops selling food, clothes and grocery. There are four- and five-storey residential flats along the main road.

"It is good that the authorities are planning to decongest the main road here and to regularise our colony, but is bringing down shops and houses the only way forward?" asked Taranjeet Singh, a shop owner in East Azad Nagar. "If our houses were to be demolished, why did MCD levy conversion charges on us?"

Sumit Sharma, who lives in Krishna Nagar but works in

East Azad Nagar, provided another view when he said, "We hear some houses are likely to be brought down, but this is necessary to widen the road." MCD sources said that the regularisation plan has identified around 99 plots bearing houses of different sizes to make way for wider roads.

On Tuesday, TOI saw electricity lines hanging low over the narrow lanes and poor drainage that had left the roadside waterlogged. The shops are mostly housed on the ground

floors of the buildings with residences on the higher floors, as provided for under MCD's mixed land use policy.

"We have been hearing about the road widening for a long time, but nothing has been done. The number of vehicles has increased, but the road network remains the same," noted BS Vohra, member, East Delhi Residents' Welfare Associations Joint Forum. "We will wait for a final order on the matter to make further comments."



Rajesh Mehta

East Azad Nagar is among the three areas identified for regularisation

## Infra plans for all villages by end of this month: LG

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**New Delhi:** Lieutenant governor VK Saxena on Tuesday said that Delhi Development Authority (DDA) and the district administration are likely to finalise the list of all development and infrastructure projects for urbanised as well as rural villages by the end of January and tenders will be floated to execute them from February onwards.

Talking to the villagers, the LG said the district magistrates have been asked to have a dialogue with the villagers and even stay in their villages to shortlist the works required to improve the condition of the areas.

"I will also go to a few villages and stay there overnight. It will help in understanding the situation better," the LG told a group of about 150 representatives from villages across the city who had assembled for the Samvaad @ Raj Niwas programme.

The interactive session was organised by DDA under 'Dilli Gramodiy Abhiyan', ideated and launched by the LG for development of Delhi's villages. Chief secretary Naresh Kumar, DDA vice-chairman Subhashish Panda, New Delhi MP and minister Meenakshi Lekhi, Chandni Chowk MP Harshvardhan, Northeast Delhi MP Manoj Tiwari and South Delhi MP Ramesh Bidhuri were present.

Saxena, who has already adopted five villages - Qutabgarh, Jaunti, Daurala, Rawta and Nizam-pur - for development, said DDA had recently got over Rs 800 crore for the rejuvenation of nearly 200 urbanised villages while Rs 480 crore of the village development fund has been sanctioned for carrying out works in 49 rural villages.

He exhorted the villagers to identify the specific problems concerning their villages and the tentative solutions so that they could be incorporated while finalising the plan of action for each village.

"I will be staying overnight in identified villages to get a first-hand account of the problems faced by residents there. Starting this month, the district magistrates will also visit and stay in the identified villages, hold consultations with the villagers and accordingly finalise the development works. This is in line with the dictum of government at the doorsteps," Saxena said.

Saxena also urged the villagers, particularly



The LG said district magistrates had been asked to stay in their villages to shortlist the works required

the youth and the women, to avail of government schemes to set up their own small-scale non-polluting industrial units and create employment opportunities.

Keeping the sporting culture in the city's villages in mind, the LG said that he will also try and create "world-class sports infrastructure" in these areas. "Coaches from the Indian Army have shown interest in training youngsters. Indian Oil Corporation has also promised to bear the cost of the trainers. We will try and have one multi-sports facility for 5-6 villages in the neighbourhood," Saxena said.

The villagers too got a chance to raise the issues plaguing their areas. Chaudhary Surendra Singh Solanki of Palam 360 Khatp emphasised that villagers' consent must be taken before starting the development work on the gram sabha land in any village.

While Ravi Dabas from Kanjhawala village said there was a chunk of 900 acres of gram sabha land, which could be used for welfare projects, former mayor Kamaljeet Sehrawat said about 300 acres of land in Dwarka was submerged in water and urged the LG to resolve the problem.

Anil Tyagi from Baradi village drew the LG's attention towards the difficulties arising in claiming the ownership of properties and taking loan on them due to the district authorities not processing the applications for mutation. The villagers also emphasised on the implementation of land pooling policy and providing alternative homes for the landless labourers.

## Industrial hub to come up in Ranikhera, govt to give land at concessional rates

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**New Delhi:** Chief minister Arvind Kejriwal on Tuesday gave his approval to set up a new industrial hub in west Delhi's Ranikhera. The industrial hub will come up on 147 acres of land, which is being acquired from Delhi Development Authority.

Delhi currently has 29 planned industrial areas and flatted factory complexes apart from 26 unplanned or non-conforming industrial pockets. A world-class electronic city with 'plug-and-play' facilities has also been planned in south-west Delhi's Baprola.

According to Delhi government officials, the industrial hub in Ranikhera will be an eco-

friendly project with a focus on service industries such as IT (information technology), ITES (information technology enabled services), media, biotechnology, and research.

"There are likely to be several clusters where multi-level buildings will be built. All modern amenities will be made available to people interested in setting up industrial units. The government will provide land at concessional rates for setting up industries. Upon its development, the Ranikhera industrial area would offer direct and indirect employment to thousands of people," said an

**147**

ACRES OF LAND WILL BE ACQUIRED FROM DDA FOR THE PROJECT

official, adding that the file had been sent to lieutenant governor VK Saxena for his approval.

In a statement, Delhi government said the responsibility to develop the new industrial hub had been entrusted to Delhi State Industrial and Infrastructure Development Corporation (DSIIDC). It added that people from Delhi as well as outside would be offered land at concessional rates for setting up industries. Zero-emission industries will be given the priority.

"Its development will be done in two phases. A smart integrated IT park will be devel-

## Job booster: Kejriwal approves 24x7 ops for 32 more commercial establishments

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**New Delhi:** Chief minister Arvind Kejriwal on Tuesday permitted 32 more shops and other commercial establishments to operate 24 hours to create employment opportunities for the youths and boost night-time economy in the city, the chief minister's office stated.

The labour department had proposed the 24x7 plan to the chief minister for the establishments belonged to the categories of commercial, retail trade or business, and provisional stores. The proposal has been sent to the lieutenant governor for final approval.

The establishments will have to comply with different sections of the Delhi Shops and Establishments Act 1954. For instance, women employees will not be

permitted to work in any establishment between 9pm and 7am during summer and between 8pm and 8am during winter.

In the past few years, there has been a significant increase in the number of establishments permitted to operate 24 hours. Their total count now stands at 667.

One logistic and courier service business each will operate in Alipur, Mehrauli, Badarpur and Gandhi Nagar. A sweet shop in Okhla Phase 3 and a restaurant in Mehrauli have got the similar permission. A restaurant and an event management establishment in Netaji Nagar, a department store in Ashok Vihar and a provision store in Gupta Colony have also been allowed.

Round-the-clock store management services have been permitted in Vinod Nagar, Rajouri Garden, Asaf Ali Road,

Dwarka Sector 23A, Najafgarh Road, African Avenue, Hauz Khas, Shakti Nagar Extension, Mahavir Enclave, Priyadarshini Vihar, Rajendra Place, Vikasuri, Munirka and Chhatarpur. Sourcing of merchandise and retail sale of ayurvedic and food items have been permitted in New Ashok Nagar, Vasant Kunj, Green Park, Rajouri Garden, Rohini Sector 10 and Dwarka Sector 4.

Delhi BJP spokesperson Praveen Shankar Kapoor said that with the changing times, allowing certain business establishments to work 24x7 was need of the hour, but the categories should be chosen with care. "Allowing big establishments that can provide proper facilities is acceptable, but there's no logic behind permitting sweet or ayurvedic medicine shops," he claimed.

## SC rejects cops' plea for barracks on floodplain

**New Delhi:** The Supreme Court on Tuesday dismissed a plea by Delhi Police seeking permission to construct barracks for accommodation of its trainees on the floodplain of Yamuna river.

A bench of Justices Abhay S Oka and Ujjal Bhuyan wondered how could permission be given for allowing construction on the floodplain. "Why do you want to construct on Yamuna floodplain? Steps need to be taken for the environment. Last year, flood water entered the Supreme Court. How can we allow barracks on Yamuna? Dismissed," the bench said.

The top court was hearing a plea by Delhi Police against an order of National Green Tribunal (NGT), which had junked the plea in 2020 saying the project is located right on the floodplain and thus cannot be allowed.

The NGT had refused to agree with the submission of Delhi Police that the principal committee, formed to oversee Yamuna rejuvenation, made recommendations in favour of Delhi Police. The NGT in its 2015 order prohibited any construction activity in the demarcated floodplain.

## Classical music will always be there, but shift to vocal poses risk: L Subramaniam

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L Subramaniam, often referred to as the "Paganini of Indian classical music", is a virtuoso violinist, composer and conductor who has left an indelible mark on the world of music. As the much-anticipated Lakshminarayana Global Music Festival, in association with The Times of India, approaches, TOI got an opportunity to engage in an exclusive interview with the legendary musician. His wife, Kavita Krishnamurthy, an Indian playback singer, was also present. In this insightful conversation, Subramaniam generously shared his reflections on the profound impact of Carnatic music in India.

■ **What's your take on the current status and potential future of Carnatic music in today's world?**

I believe classical music will always be there. As long as human beings exist, whether it's Beethoven, Tyagaraja, Dikshitar, or Bach, there will be individuals who understand the depth of this music and continue its legacy. However, there is a significant lack of support for instrumental musicians at the same time. There were great artists like T R Mahalingam, Rajarathnam Pillai, Chitti Babu, and Yosin. Ho-



TOI INTERVIEW

wever, the trend has shifted to being primarily vocal-centric lately. This imbalance poses a risk, as major international festivals predominantly feature instrumentalists due to vocal language barriers. Just as an opera singer draws a limited audience, instrumental performances, particularly flute and piano, possess broader appeal. Neglecting the cultivation of instru-

**The 33rd edition of the Lakshminarayana Global Music Festival in association with The Times of India takes the stage at Siri Fort, New Delhi on January 5. Featuring the Symphonic Orchestra of Northern Kazakhstan and Astana City Erkegali Rakhmadiyev State Academic Philharmonic Chamber Choir, the performance, led by Dr L Subramaniam and other talented musicians, promises a mesmerising experience with nearly 100 performers.**

mental music may lead to a scarcity of global instrumentalists in the future.

■ **How do you intend to organize the Lakshminarayana Global Music Festival this year, and what kind of impact is anticipated on the audience?**

This year, the Lakshminarayana Global Music Festival promises a

spectacular showcase, featuring a grand orchestra from Kazakhstan and a choir of around 90 members. With a total ensemble of nearly 100 performers, this marks the largest gathering in the festival's history. This fusion extravaganza transcends classical boundaries, blending East and West seamlessly. A highlight is the performance of the renowned Bharat Symphony, commissioned by Chicago's mayor and previously played across Europe. Notably, the concert will be held in Delhi, Bengaluru, Mysuru and Mumbai. The final event at Shanmukhananda Hall in Mumbai hosts a western symphony and choir, a first for the venue.

■ **You'll be kicking off the tour with a performance in Delhi. What made Delhi the first choice? Are you excited to meet your fans in Delhi again?**

The reason for hosting our inaugural concert in Delhi this year is our debut performance of the Bharat Symphony. What better place to showcase this remarkable piece than in Delhi? Additionally, our entire orchestra will be arriving to the city from Kazakhstan because there is a direct flight, making it convenient for us to deliver an exceptional performance.

## Woman, son on 2-wheeler hit by a van, dragged for 400m; succumb to injuries

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**New Delhi:** A 52-year-old woman and her 26-year-old son, who were going to a temple on the former's birthday, were killed when their two-wheeler collided with a Maruti Eeco van in north Delhi's Burari on Monday evening. They were dragged for around 400 metres and the car stopped only after hitting a divider.

The driver, who has been arrested, also hit two more vehicles, injuring two people—a bike rider and a passerby. Police said they were verifying 39-year-old Raju's claim that he had suffered an epileptic attack and lost consciousness.

The deceased have been identified as Asha Mahajan, a housewife, and her son Kanik, who worked for an IT firm in Wazirpur. The injured have been identified as Rinku (30) and Gangaprasad (31). They are yet to join the investigation.

Police said Raju operated the van on contract between Jahangirpuri Metro Station and Bahalgarh in Haryana. On Monday, he deviated from the



Kanik Mahajan with mother Asha

usual route near Khatu Shyam Mandir in Alipur due to traffic. Near a petrol pump on Burari Road, he collided with the scooter. "Subsequently, the van hit two more vehicles before a road kerb and came to a halt. The driver was not intoxicated," said Manoj Meena, DCP (north). The van was allegedly carrying four passengers, but nobody was found on the spot.

Raju, who is married and has two children, said he was under medication for epilepsy. "We have seized some medicines and his medical papers are being collected," Meena said.



# Fast Buck! 3 Men Held In ₹5cr Fake Note Bust

Entire Set-Up For Printing, Circulating Counterfeit Money Seized

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Police have arrested a 26-year-old Unani medical practitioner and two of his associates for allegedly making and circulating fake notes with a cumulative face value of Rs 5 crore.

Special commissioner HGS Dhaliwal said his team recovered fake currency of the supposed face value of Rs 50 lakh from the arrested trio. "The complete set-up where FICN (fake Indian currency notes) was being printed was also unearthed. They were in this trade for five years," Dhaliwal added.

Off the three, Asif Ali was the Unani practitioner and Sartaj Khan (27) was a cyber cafe owner. The duo brought in another friend, Danish Ali (25) for help with logistics. All three were from Budaun, Uttar Pradesh.

The trio ran out of luck when they were arrested by the Delhi police special cell, who had been tipped off about their shenanigans.

The police said the fake notes were well made and difficult to differentiate from real ones at a quick glance.

The arrests were made by a team of ACP Sanjay Dutt and others after they got an input about Asif. On December 30, the police got information that the accused would go to the Akshardham metro station in east Delhi to deliver a huge quantity of fake Indian currency notes to their associates in Delhi.



Police said the fake notes were well made and difficult to differentiate from real ones



"Accordingly, a trap was laid, and the suspects were arrested when they were travelling in an SUV. The accused were produced before a magistrate who sent them to four days' police custody. During the remand, the complete FICN printing set-up, including raw materials, high-quality laptops, printers and other equipment, was unearthed from their hideout in Badayun," additional CP (special cell) Pramod Kushwaha said.

Asif said he worked as an Unani practitioner in his village but took to crime with his friend Sartaj for quick money.

They purchased high-quality software for scanning and printing fake

currency notes. His old friend and associate Danish arranged for a hideout for putting up the printing set-up.

Asif and Danish used to procure raw materials, such as paper, ink and dyes. Sartaj would operate the computer system to print the FICN. Initially, Sartaj used to do the scanning, formatting and printing of the currency notes at his cyber cafe in his village. Later, they rented premises at Sahaswan in Budaun.

They have told police that they had supplied the fake notes to associates and clients in Delhi/NCR, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Punjab and other places. Police are now looking for some of their associates who are at large.

# Psychologist in family courts welcome, but not child's play

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Psychologists and advocates have welcomed Delhi high court's recent order, asking its Registrar General to deploy at least one clinical child psychologist in each family court complex. However, the initiative needs a lot of preparation and should not be implemented half-heartedly, according to them.

The high court's decision came in a custody dispute, wherein the children's father was granted visitation rights as an interim arrangement. The court emphasised the importance of having a clinical child psychologist available to conduct counselling sessions for minors, as and when required or as directed in respective cases, acknowledging their specialised expertise in addressing the psychological needs of the children.

The psychologists dealing with these cases will also be expected to prepare and submit their assessment reports to the court. According to advocates, the psychologists will have to find a way to make such reports without compromising or breaching the confidentiality of the children, what they share and factual disclosures.

Dr Bhavna Barmi, senior clinical child psychologist, said, "Family dynamics play havoc with the minds of

**Psychologists will have to find a way to make such reports without compromising or breaching the confidentiality of the children, what they share and factual disclosures**

children. In a family court, it would be ideal to have a clinical child psychologist."

While appreciating the move, she said a few important things must be kept in mind for its implementation. "The experts have to be not just counsellors but proper clinical child psychologists and it should be checked that they have proper experience for this," she said.

The senior doctor also said that other than the counselling sessions, the help of a plethora of tools, including art, dance and drama, should be taken in such cases as "these can help a child express themselves".

Anant Kumar Asthana, a senior advocate who works for cases pertaining to child rights, stressed on the need for finding adequate and experienced clinical child psychologists. "It will be a challenging task because it is a speciality in the profession," he added.

According to Asthana, "Training will be required for the family court judges so that they understand the functional nuances of child psychiatry and are able to pass appropriate judicial orders. It will also enable them to appreciate the clinical child psychologist's assessments report, which may have specialised terminology and language."

Asthana also pointed out that there were several "ethical and legal considerations" in the use of mental health or psychology experts in judicial and legal processes pertaining to children. "The appointment and functioning of clinical child psychologists to aid the processes of family courts will require further detailing of the ethical and legal aspects of such interactions," he added.

According to Sanjay Gupta, a child rights activist and director of the NGO Chetna, "Taking opinions from a child in a marital discord case will definitely be useful. It is disheartening to observe that 40% of street children are victims of family discord. Children usually suffer because of adult egos."

He added that while many children from affluent families can have access to professional counselling, those from the economic weaker sections cannot.

# Comedy, plays & lot more at govt's fest

New Delhi: Delhi government has organised a festival during which comedy events, poetry and plays will be held. Prominent actors and poets, including Sunil Grover, Ashok Chakradhar and Ashok Gemini, will be performing during the event. The five-day festival, which began on January 2, comprises 'Hasya Rang Utsav' and 'Laughter Weekend'.

Hasya Rang Utsav will be held at Kamani Auditorium till January 4. The concluding day will see a performance by renowned comedian Raja Rancho and a laughter-packed act, "Andhere Mein," directed by Sunil Rawa.

Laughter Weekend will be held on January 5 and 6 at Ambedkar Auditorium in Janpath. On Friday, Sunil Grover will perform, while on Saturday, a *hasya kavi sammelan* featuring Ashok Chakradhar, Arun Gemini and other poets will be held. **TNN**

# Food for thought: Why you should be punctual with meals

Anuja.Jaiswal@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: Eating breakfast and the last meal of the day early, coupled with a longer nighttime fasting period, can reduce the risk of cardiovascular disease (CVD), which is the leading cause of death and a disease burden across the world.

This was revealed in a study, published in December 2023 in *Nature Communication*, analysing data from 1,03,389 adults, including 79% of women with an average age of 42 years, and followed up on them for about seven years. The study explored

**The study stated that having a late first meal (after 9am) and last meal of the day (after 9pm) is more likely to result in cardiovascular disease, especially among women**



red how eating and fasting fluctuations affect the incidence of cardiovascular disease.

The study stated that having a late first meal (after 9am) and last meal of the day (after 9pm) is more likely to result in cardiovascular disease, especially among women. Also, each additional hour in delaying the time of the first meal of the day was associated with 6% higher risk of overall CVD and the last meal after 9pm was associated with a 28% higher risk of cerebrovascular disease. However, no significant risk was associated with the number of times an individual ate.

The new findings suggest that adopting earlier daily eating patterns may be beneficial for cardiovascular prevention. Explaining the scientific cause, researchers stated that food is

a well-known synchroniser of peripheral clocks in the circadian system and eating late at night can disrupt this system and lead to metabolic disturbances. Sensitivity to insulin and to elevated glucose concentration is greatest in the early morning and declines over the day, showing that metabolism is prepared to anticipate and digest energy sources at specific times of the day.

Dr S Ramakrishnan, professor in the cardiology department of AIIMS, said that cardiometabolic health is best served by time-restricted eating with early first and last meals. "Having meals on time promotes the metabolism of food, as food has been established to set peripheral circadian rhythms that regulate blood pressure."

"This prospective study serves as a warning, emphasising the association between later meal times and increased CVD risk. Notwithstanding the findings of the study, we do recommend prioritising earlier eating patterns and offer a pragmatic strategy for CVD prevention. As our understanding of circadian rhythms and cardiovascular function evolves with such studies, adapting meal timing guidance becomes a dynamic aspect of promoting better cardiometabolic health," said Dr Samir Kubba, director (cardiology), Dharamshila Narayana Superspecialty Hospital.

Besides timely breakfast and dinner, a healthy balanced diet and exercise are equally important aspects of a healthy lifestyle to reduce cardiovascular disease, said Dr Sanjay Chugh, a city based senior cardiologist.

According to researchers, younger people, students, unemployed, people with higher educational levels and lower monthly incomes, among others, are more likely to have late first and last meals.

**TIMES ascent**

**Looking for a job?**  
Want to know the latest trends in the world of work?  
Read today's Times Ascent  
Page 13, 14 & 15

**CONGRATULATIONS**  
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## City sees 15 new cases of Covid sub-variant JN.1

New Delhi: Delhi has reported 15 new cases of Covid-19 sub-variant JN.1 with majority of the patients recovering in home isolation, officials said on Tuesday. The city had recorded its first case of the sub-variant last week.

According to an official, reports of 19 samples sent for genome sequencing were received on Monday. Out of these, 15 samples were detected with the JN.1 variant, two with XBB sub-variant and rest with other variants.

"The first patient had got admitted to a hospital because she was scared but she only had mild symptoms. She was discharged within a few days. The 15 patients detected with JN.1 variant are under home isolation and have no discomfort. Four of them have recovered also," said an official.

Health minister Saurabh Bharadwaj said Covid-19 cases being reported recently were mild infections and that there was no reason to worry. The situation is under control in Delhi, Bharadwaj added.

## Appearance before ED: AAP says CM 'will act as per law'

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: The uncertainty surrounding chief minister Arvind Kejriwal's response to the Enforcement Directorate's (ED) January 3 summons deepened on Tuesday, with the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) asserting that its national convener "will act as per the law".

Reacting to a question in a press conference, AAP's chief national spokesperson, Priyanka Kakkar, said, "Our legal team will be better equipped to answer this question. We will act as per the law." No reaction was available from the chief minister's office.

When he was away on a Vipassana meditation course in Anandgarh village of Punjab's Hoshiarpur district in the last week of December, Kejriwal was served the summons to appear before ED in a case related to the alleged money laundering charges linked to the now-

**Urging ED to withdraw the summons, Kejriwal had earlier observed that it didn't specify if he was being called for questioning as an accused or a witness and as an individual or the CM of Delhi or AAP's national convener**

withdrawn excise policy of 2021-22. This is the third time that ED has summoned the CM, who had refused to appear before the agency on November 2 and December 21, calling its notices "illegal" and "politically motivated".

Urging ED to withdraw the summons, Kejriwal had earlier observed that it didn't specify if he was being called for questioning as an accused or a witness and as an individual or the CM of Delhi or AAP's national convener. While replying to the second summons, Kejriwal had claimed that the notice did not answer the queries he had raised in his response to the first one. On both occasions, the chief minister had replied to

the summons in the morning of the day he was supposed to appear before ED.

AAP sources said the chief minister had several rounds of meetings with his legal team and close aides on Tuesday. Another source said a couple of prominent lawyers were also seen going to the CM's Civil Lines residence during the day.

A party functionary pointed out that there were examples when political leaders were sent six-seven summonses by ED, but they skipped each of them. "We will know the exact course of action our leader is going to take only on January 3," said a functionary. "If he does not go to the ED headquarters on Wednesday, a detailed letter with the reasons will be sent," he added.

## CM's statement to be seen as affidavit before a court

► Continued from P1

The SC had 'tentatively' accepted the ED's allegation that part of the Rs 338 crore of alleged bribes generated from the Delhi liquor 'scam' was used for AAP's campaign in the Goa elections.

Interestingly, it was the claim of Kejriwal's close aide and former deputy CM Manish Sisodia that he was not the 'end beneficiary' of the 'proceeds of crime' that had led the SC to question the ED about the role of the AAP leadership in the alleged scam.

In response to the first summons issued to him by the ED, Kejriwal had written to the agency that it was not clear whether he had been called as an accused or a witness in the money laundering case. Kejriwal's statement, if and when he decides to appear for questioning, will be considered as an affidavit before a court since Section 50(1) of PMLA requires the person summoned to be examined on oath, produce records as demanded and record evidence on affidavits.

Meanwhile, the ED on Tuesday conducted searches at AAP legislator from Okhla Amanatullah Khan's premises in an alleged Waqf Board recruitment scam. This was the second time that the agency searched his premises.

## What Makes A 'Cold Day'? Not The Jacket

### Lodhi Road Sees Season's First Such Day

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Tuesday was meteorologically a "cold day" on Lodhi Road, according to IMD, making it the first such day of the season in Delhi.

Why India Meteorological Department (IMD) declared a "cold day" lies in the definition — when the minimum temperature is below 10 degrees Celsius and the maximum temperature is lower than the normal by 4.5 degrees or more, it is a "cold day". On Lodhi Road, the maximum temperature was 16.2 degrees Celsius, 4.8 degrees below normal, and minimum was 7.4 degrees Celsius, one degree above normal.

Going by those riders, Safdarjung — where the city's base station is, and which is barely 2 km from Lodhi Road — did not see a "cold day" although the minimum here was 8.3 degrees Celsius. That's because its maximum temperature of 17.2 degrees Celsius was two degrees below normal. Safdarjung is unlikely to witness a "cold day" in the next few days.

Some stations recorded a lower maximum temperature than Lodhi Road, but Met officials said they too did not meet the criteria for a "cold day".

The lowest maximum temperature on Tuesday was recorded at Mungeshpur in north-west Delhi at 13.2 degrees Celsius, followed by Jafarpur, south-west Delhi, at 13.7 degrees Celsius. A Met



The maximum temperature will be 18-19° Celsius for next six days

official said the normal mark for automatic weather stations (AWS) like Mungeshpur and Jafarpur was unavailable. The records of the last 30 years are needed to determine the normal mark. Without that comparison, a "cold day" cannot be called.

Kuldeep Srivastava, scientist and head of the Regional Weather Forecasting Centre, IMD, said: "The distance between monitoring stations on Lodhi Road and at Safdarjung is around 2 kilometres. However, Lodhi Road saw a "cold day" due to the difference in their normal mark."

Parts of Delhi recorded moderate to shallow fog on Tuesday morning with visibility dipping to 500 metres at Safdarjung and 1,200 metres at Palam.

The Met forecast is that the maximum temperature is

likely to remain around 18-19 degrees Celsius for the next six days. The minimum temperature is predicted to hover around 8-9 degrees Celsius for the next few days. Shallow fog is expected during the early hours of the morning.

"Cold day conditions are unlikely for the next few days. Cold north-westerly winds are predicted to blow during the daytime, while wind direction is expected to change to easterly during nighttime for the next few days. As easterly winds are relatively warm during winter, the minimum temperature is not expected to dip," Srivastava said.

Delhi's air quality stayed in the "very poor" category with an AQI of 340 on Tuesday. According to Air Quality Early Warning System for Delhi, the air is likely to remain in the "very poor" range till January 5.

**कार्यालय नगर पालिक निगम, भोपाल**  
**केन्द्रीय कर्मशाला (मेके. शाखा)**

क्र. 01 / के.कर्म./2024 **तृतीय निविदा सूचना** भोपाल दिनांक 02/01/2024

नगर निगम भोपाल केन्द्रीय कर्मशाला के द्वारा 125 नग मीन गारबेज डिपर (Minimum 2.50 क्यू. मी.) क्रय किये जाने हेतु ऑनलाईन निविदा निम्नानुसार आमंत्रित की जाती है।

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1.	2023_UD_314873_3	Purchase of CNG Mini Tippers Vehicle For Garbage Collection for Bhopal Municipal Corporation (Third Call)	91750000/-	458750/-	20000/-	15 दिवस

BID SUBMISSION END DATE - 13.01.2024 TIME - 05:30PM  
BID OPENING DATE - 15.01.2024 TIME-03:00 PM

निविदा से संबंधित अन्य विस्तृत जानकारी वेबसाइट [mptenders.gov.in](http://mptenders.gov.in) पर देखी एवं केन्द्रीय कर्मशाला (मेकेनिकल) से कार्यालयीन समय में प्राप्त की जा सकती है।

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**ABRIDGED NOTICE**

Following five notices inviting e-expression of interest i.c.w. Supply of Materials and Printed Items for the ensuing **Parliament General Election 2024** has been published by the Tender Inviting Authority, on behalf of the District Magistrate, South 24 Parganas.

EOI No.	Tender Id in <a href="http://www.wbtenders.gov.in">www.wbtenders.gov.in</a>	Type of Tender
SPG/MMC-01/2023	2023_DMSP_635209_1	Item-Wise
SPG/MMC-02/2023	2023_DMSP_635218_1	Percentage
SPG/MMC-03/2023	2023_DMSP_635223_1	Item-Wise
SPG/MMC-04/2023	2023_DMSP_635227_1	Item-Wise
SPG/MMC-05/2023	2023_DMSP_635229_1	Item-Wise

For details, please visit [www.s24pgs.gov.in](http://www.s24pgs.gov.in).

Sd/-  
Additional District Magistrate (2P)  
South 24 Parganas

Memo No : 21(2)/DICO/S24PgS. Dt. 02.01.2024

**TT-39**

**Government of Odisha**  
**Sports & Youth Services Department**

**Request for Proposal** Date: 01.01.2024

Sports & Youth Services Department, Government of Odisha calls for bids from leading agencies to the RFPs (3 nos) for "Engagement of Event Management Agency for State Level Sports Competitions at multiple locations".

The details of the document are available at the below mentioned website.  
Website: <https://sports.odisha.gov.in/>  
<https://tendersodisha.gov.in/>

Interested firms/ parties/ agencies are advised to study the RFP document carefully before submitting their bid.

RFP Reference No.	Location
SYS-YS-YS-0005-2023/73	Bhubaneswar
SYS-YS-YS-0005-2023/74	Puri
SYS-YS-YS-0005-2023/75	Rourkela

**Important Dates and Information:**  
Date of Publication-01.01.2024  
Last date and time for sending pre-bid queries - 08.01.2024; Time: 11:00 am.  
Pre-Bid Meeting - Date: 08.01.2024; Time: 12:00 pm.  
Last date and time of submission of proposal - 16.01.2024; Time: 03:00 pm.  
Opening of the Technical Bid - 16.01.2024; Time: 04:00 pm.

Sd/-  
Commissioner-cum-Secretary  
OIPR-29001/11/0137/23-24

**E-Tender Notice**  
**Leasing of Stalls at Gate No. 1, 2 & Amusement**

E-Tenders are invited for various activities during 37<sup>th</sup> Surajkund International Crafts Mela scheduled to be held from 2<sup>nd</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup> February, 2024 at Surajkund, Faridabad (Haryana).

A) 57 nos. of commercial stall (Ordinary & Corner) at Gate No. 1 of Size 10'x10' each (For Sale of Items except Food where cooking is required, Handmade Handlooms & Handicrafts items) Outside Surajkund Mela Ground, Faridabad.

B) 20 Nos. of commercial stalls (ordinary & corner) at Gate No. 2 of Size 10'x10' each (For Sale of Items except Food where cooking is required, Handmade Handlooms & Handicrafts items) Outside Surajkund Mela Ground, Faridabad.

C) Leasing of space for installation, operation & Management of Amusement Rides.

The complete scope of work, eligibility criteria and evaluation criteria are mentioned in tender document available on [www.haryanatourism.gov.in](http://www.haryanatourism.gov.in) and [www.etenders.hry.nic.in](http://www.etenders.hry.nic.in). The E-tender can be submitted online up to 10.01.2024 till 11.00 AM. Only Online applications/ e-tenders shall be accepted. The Managing Director reserves the right to accept/ reject any or all the bids without assigning any reason.

Issued by Managing Director,  
Haryana Tourism Corporation Limited.

Issued through DPR, Haryana/Advt. No. 23875/02.01.2024

**कार्यालय : मुख्य निर्वाचन अधिकारी, उत्तराखण्ड**  
दियुकरमा नयन प्रथम वल, 4 सुभाष रोड सचिवालय परिसर, देहरादून-248001  
email id: [election09@gmail.com](mailto:election09@gmail.com), फोन नं० (0135) - 2719780, 2719551, फैक्स नं० (0135) - 2719724

संख्या: 11/XXV-25/2023 देहरादून दिनांक-01 जनवरी, 2024

**:- ई-निविदा सूचना :-**

उत्तराखण्ड अधिप्राप्ति नियमावली-2017 (समय-समय पर यथासंशोधित) में निहित प्राविधानों के अनुसारण में इच्छुक एवं अनुभवी, प्रतिष्ठित फर्मों से द्वि-निविदा प्रणाली के अन्तर्गत वेबसाइट [www.uktenders.gov.in](http://www.uktenders.gov.in) के माध्यम से निम्नवत् ई-निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है:-

S. No.	Particulars	निविदा संख्या-01 लोक सभा के सामान्य निर्वाचन हेतु मतदेय स्थलों के प्रयोगार्थ विभिन्न प्रकार के सांख्यिक एवं असांख्यिक प्रपत्रों, लिफाफों, रजिस्टर, मतदाता पर्ची आदि की रणार्थ-अपूर्ति हेतु	निविदा संख्या-02 लोक सभा के सामान्य निर्वाचन हेतु मतदेय स्थलों के प्रयोगार्थ लेखन सामग्री किट की आपूर्ति हेतु
01-	Tender Fee	₹ 1000-00 inclusive of all Taxes	₹ 1000-00 inclusive of all Taxes
02-	Earnest Money Deposit/Bid Security	₹ 1,50,000-00	₹ 1,75,000-00
03-	Date of Publication on <a href="http://www.uktenders.gov.in">www.uktenders.gov.in</a>	3rd January, 2024 from 1100 Hrs.	3rd January, 2024 from 1100 Hrs.
04-	Date and time for Pre-Bid meeting	10th January, 2024 from 1500 Hrs.	10th January, 2024 from 1600 Hrs.
05-	Bid Submission Start date in <a href="http://www.uktenders.gov.in">www.uktenders.gov.in</a>	15th January, 2024 from 1300 Hrs.	15th January, 2024 from 1300 Hrs.
06-	Last Date & Time of submission of Bid (Online)	23rd January, 2024 up to 1500 Hrs.	23rd January, 2024 up to 1530 Hrs.
07-	Due Date of Opening of Technical Bid	23rd January, 2024 up to 1600 Hrs.	23rd January, 2024 up to 1630 Hrs.
08-	Due Date of Opening of Financial Bid	To be notified later	To be notified later

Detailed document, eligibility criteria and prescribed format for submission of bids will be available on website [www.uktenders.gov.in](http://www.uktenders.gov.in) and [www.ceo.uk.gov.in](http://www.ceo.uk.gov.in) from 3rd January, 2024 onwards. Any amendment/corrigendum in the future against the above mentioned tenders shall be uploaded at [www.uktenders.gov.in](http://www.uktenders.gov.in) and [www.ceo.uk.gov.in](http://www.ceo.uk.gov.in) only.

(Dr. V. Shanmugam)  
Chief Electoral Officer,  
Uttarakhand.

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL**

Office of the Executive Engineer  
Purulia Division, Municipal Engineering Directorate  
Dakbungalow shopping complex(1<sup>st</sup> Floor), Near Railway Station, Purulia-723103  
e-Mail: [puruliadivnmed@gmail.com](mailto:puruliadivnmed@gmail.com)

**NOTICE FOR INVITING E-TENDER**

e-tenders are invited from Interested Bonafide bidders/Govt. contractors for Laying of Distribution pipe line (D.I. Pipes and HDPE Pipes All types and Class) including all D.I. specials and HDPE Pipes and Temporary Road restoration for Water Supply Scheme in Zone B within Jhalda Municipality in the District Purulia under AMRUT 2.0 Project. per the detailed below:

Sl. No.	Name of the ULB	Tender ID	EMD
1	Jhalda Municipality	2023_MAD_631429_1	Rs. 135385

Last date of submission: 29.01.2024, 12:00 Hrs. Interested Bonafide bidders are requested to visit <https://wbtenders.gov.in> Sd/- Executive Engineer, Purulia Division, M. E. Directorate ICA- 169(3)/2024

**The West Bengal Power Development Corporation Limited**  
(A Govt. of West Bengal Enterprise)  
Corporate Identity No. U40104WB1985SGC039154  
Registered & Corporate Office: Bidyut Unnayan Bhaban  
Plot No.: 3, C. L. A. Block, Sector-III, Bidhannagar, Kol-700106

**Notice Inviting E-Tender**  
Ref No.: WBPDC/L/Tend-Adv/23-24/COEP/CC-1189 Date: 28.12.2023  
NIT No.: WBPDC/L/COEP/NIT/E1789/23-24 Dated: 05.12.2023  
BI-Annual Rate Contract for Electrical Maintenance job at WBPDC Guest house at Durgapur.

NIT Document Download Start Date/End Date: 28.12.2023 from 17:00 hrs./15.01.2024 at 10:00 hrs. Contact Person: Smt. Sulagna Dass, Manager (PS), M & C. Contact No.: 824042058. E-mail: [s.dass@wbpdcl.co.in](mailto:s.dass@wbpdcl.co.in)  
For details please visit: <https://wbtenders.gov.in> ICA- T73(3)/2024

**The West Bengal Power Development Corporation Limited**  
(A Govt. of West Bengal Enterprise)  
Corporate Identity No. U40104WB1985SGC039154  
Bakreswar Thermal Power Project  
P.O. BKTPP, Dist. - Birbhum, Pin - 731104

**NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER**  
Ref No.: WBPDC/L/Tend-Adv/23-24/BKTPP/CC-1174 Date: 21.12.2023  
NIT No.: WBPDC/L/BKTPP/NIT/E2842/23-24

E-Tenders in prescribed format are invited at <https://wbtenders.gov.in> by General Manager, BKTPP, WBPDC/L from eligible Agencies / Companies in 2 Part bid system for "Rotating Equipment Overhauling during U#3 OH & U#5 OH". Tender Document Download Start Date: 26.12.2023, 09:00 AM. Bid Submission End Date: 19.01.2024 at 05:00 PM. Contact Person: Mr. Indrani Chakraborty, Sr. Manager, CC, BKTPP, WBPDC/L, Mobile: 833603818. E-mail: [cc\\_bktps@wbpdcl.co.in](mailto:cc_bktps@wbpdcl.co.in) For details please visit: <https://wbtenders.gov.in> ICA- 167(2)/2024

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL**  
**DIRECTORATE OF CHILD RIGHTS & TRAFFICKING**  
**SHAISHALI (3RD FLOOR), DF BLOCK, SECTOR-I, SALT LAKE, KOLKATA-700064**

Memo no: 2131 Date: 27-12-2023

**Notice for extension of last date of Selection for Social Worker Member Juvenile Justice Board**

In connection to Notice vide memo no. 1917 dated 21-11-2023 due to less number of applications for the position of Social Welfare Member of Juvenile Justice Board for Alipurdur district; the last date for application has been extended till 5 PM of 15-01-2024 through online portal only, in the website <https://wcdsw.wb.gov.in> and <https://wcdsw.wb.gov.in/dert> from 01-01-2024. In any case, application will not be received by hand or by post or through email.

Sd/-  
The Member Secretary,  
Selection Committee and Director,  
Directorate of Child Rights and Trafficking,  
Government of West Bengal.

ICA- N 2(3)/2024

**Aliah University**

IIA/27, New Town, Kolkata-700160  
17, Gorachand Road, Kolkata- 700014  
21, Haji Md. Mohsin Square, Kolkata 700016  
Website:- [www.aliah.ac.in](http://www.aliah.ac.in)  
Email: [au.phd.admission2023@gmail.com](mailto:au.phd.admission2023@gmail.com)

No.AU/Admn-PhD01/23 Date: 30/12/2023  
**Notification for Admission to the Ph. D. Programme: 2023-2024**

Online applications are invited in prescribed format from the eligible candidates (Indian nationals only) for admission to the Ph.D. Programme in various departments of the following subjects:

(i) Arabic, (ii) Bengali, (iii) English, (iv) Urdu, (v) Economics, (vi) History, (vii) Education, (viii) Geography, (ix) Physics, (x) Chemistry, (xi) Mathematics and Statistics, (xii) Biological Sciences, (xiii) Civil Engg., (xiv) Computer Science and Engg., (xv) Electrical Engg., (xvi) Electronics & Communication Engg., (xvii) Mechanical Engg., (xviii) Management and Business Administration (MBA), (xix) Islamic Theology, (xx) Islamic Studies.

Applicants are advised to visit the university website: <https://www.aliah.ac.in> for detailed information/notification and online application portal.

ICA- N 1(7)/2024

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL**  
Department of Health, & Family Welfare,  
Government of West Bengal  
Swasthya Sathi Cell  
7<sup>th</sup> Floor, Swasthya Sathi Building,  
Swasthya Bhawan campus,  
GN-29, Sector-V, Salt Lake, Kolkata-700091

**Notice Inviting Request for Bid (RFB)**  
Bids for selection of Programme Management Unit (PMU) through an Empaneled Transaction Advisor of the Finance Department, Govt. of West Bengal, are being invited for strengthening of Swasthya Sathi Samiti. For other details visit website <https://wbtenders.gov.in> Sd/- Secretary, Health & Family Welfare Department, Government of West Bengal ICA- T80(3)/2024

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL**  
**WRIBDD- e-NIT**

Executive Engineer(A-M) Suri(A-M) Division, WRDD invites e-tender for Renovation of River Lift Irrigation Scheme under Core Sector 2023-24 Programme vide eNIT No. 41/2023-24 Tender ID: 2024\_WRDD\_635541\_1,2 and last dropping date 15/02/2024 upto 5.00 PM. Intending bidders are requested to visit the website <http://wbtenders.gov.in> for details.

Sd/-P.Mallik  
Executive Engineer (A-M)  
Suri(Agr-Mech) Division ICA- T78(3)/2024

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL**  
**OFFICE OF THE MPO-CUM-SUPERINTENDENT**  
ESI HOSPITAL MANIKTALA  
54, BAGMARI ROAD, KOLKATA-54

**e-TENDER NOTICE**

The MPO-Cum-Superintendent invites e-tenders for selection of vendors for "Supply of different types of Laboratory/ Diagnostics reagent, Kits, Chemicals with other items" at ESI Hospital Maniktala. The NIT documents & other details will be available from 03.01.24 in the website : <https://wbtenders.gov.in> and office notice board. Bid submission will start on 03.01.24. Sd/- MPO-CUM-SUPERINTENDENT, ESI HOSPITAL, MANIKTALA ICA- 164(2)/2024

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL**  
**NOTICE INVITING e-QUOTATION**  
A1. Up-keeping, Sweeping & Cleaning the entire building from G.F. to 5th Floor (2500 Sq.ft. in each floor including 8 nos. Toilet) of West Bengal State Agricultural Marketing Board vide NIT No. WBSAMB/CEO/63/R1/2023-24, Dated 20.12.2023 bearing Tender ID:- 2023\_WBSMB\_631363\_1. The last date for submission of Quotation is on 18.01.2024 upto 12.00 Noon. A2. Supplying of packaging materials (PP WOVEN SACK) for the non perishable Agricultural Produces including processed commodities for Sufal Bangla Project under Paschimbanga Agricultural Corporation Ltd vide NIT No. WBSAMB/CEO/76/2023-24, Dated 07.12.2023 bearing Tender ID:- 2023\_WBSMB\_631386\_1. The last date for submission of Quotation is on 17.01.2024 upto 12.00 Noon. The detail information regarding e-NIT will be available on the website <https://wbtenders.gov.in> Sd/- Chief Executive Officer, West Bengal State Agricultural Marketing Board ICA- T62(3)/2024

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL**  
Siliguri Jalpaiguri Development Authority  
Himanchal Vihar, Near-Passport Seva  
Laghu Kendra, Matigira-734010

**NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER**

The Chief Executive Officer, Siliguri Jalpaiguri Development Authority, Siliguri invites electronic notice inviting e-bid (Online) under 2 (Two) bid system from eligible resourceful bonafide and experienced firms / companies / individual contractors for the following works: Tender No. NIT 125 / Engg / 2023-24 of SIDA. Name of Work: Strengthening of Road on Loknath Bazar Road to House of Shanu Baidya and Construction of Drain at Vidasagar Sarani and Blyane of Ward No.-36 under SMC, Siliguri. Amount put to Tender- Rs. 73,02,096.00. Earnest Money- Rs. 1,46,042.00. Tender Documents Sale / Download Start Date & Time- 03.01.2024 at 4:00 P.M. and Bid Submission End Date & Time- 19.01.2024 upto 4:00 P.M. Date of opening of Technical Proposals - 22.01.2024 at 11:00 A.M. Date of opening of Financial Proposals - to be notified after technical evaluation. Corrigendum if any will be published in website only All details can be obtained from the website - [www.sjda.org](http://www.sjda.org) or Login <http://wbtenders.gov.in> or contact Engineering Section of SIDA at (0353) 2512922, 2515647. Sd/- Chief Executive Officer ICA- T56(4)/2024

**C-2255**

Phone No.: (0663) 2412135  
Fax No.: (0663) 2412335  
Email ID : [eophdsbp@gmail.com](mailto:eophdsbp@gmail.com)

**GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA**  
**OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT ENGINEER, P.H. DIVISION, SAMBALPUR.**  
**NOTICE INVITING TENDERS**  
**NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING THROUGH e-Procurement**  
**Bid Identification No. SEPHSBP-11/2023-24 Dt. 27.12.2023**

01. Name of the Work	: 2 nos Work
02. Type of Bid.	: Two Bid System
03. Estimated Cost	: Rs. 448.64 lakhs to Rs. 557.49 lakhs
04. Class of Contractor	: Manufacturer
05. Period of Completion	: 60 (Sixty) days
06. Date & Time of availability of bid document in the portal	: From 11.00 AM of dt. 03.01.2024 to 5.00 PM of 17.01.2024
07. Last date / time of receipt of bids in the portal	: 5.00 PM of 17.01.2024
08. Date & Time of opening of tender	: At 11.30 AM of 18.01.2024
09. Name and Address of the Officer Inviting Bid	: Executive Engineer, P.H. Division, Sambalpur, Brooks' Hill, Near Stadium, AI/PO- Motijharan, Dist- Sambalpur-768001.

Further details can be seen from the web site <http://tenders.ori.nic.in> or [www.tendersorissa.gov.in](http://www.tendersorissa.gov.in) Sd/-  
(I/C) Executive Engineer  
P.H. Division, Sambalpur  
OIPR-13026/11/062023-24

**महाराष्ट्र शासन**  
**नगर रचना आणि मूल्यानिर्धारण विभाग,**  
**नगर रचना संचालनालय,**  
**तळमजला, मध्यवर्ती इमारत, पुणे ४११००९**

**Notice inviting Request for Proposal for "Empanelment of Agencies for preparation of GIS base maps due for revision, Existing Land use (ELU) and assistance in Preparation of GIS based Development Plans"**

Central Govt. under "Scheme of Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment" for financial year 2022-23 has approved project of "GIS based D.P. (Municipal Corporations & Municipal Councils), which are due for revision". For implementation of this project state has been divided into 4 clusters and 4 number of Request for Proposals (RFPs) (E-Tender) for each said clusters are going to be published by this office within the next few days on Mahatender (<https://mahatenders.gov.in>) website, for appointment of private agencies for preparation of Fasttrack GIS Based Developed Plan for various Planning Authorities in the State of Maharashtra as per the provisions of the "Maharashtra Regional Planning and Town Planning Act, 1966" and various subsequent instructions issued by the State Govt. from time to time.

**Contact:**  
Urban Research Cell, Directorate of Town Planning and Valuation,  
First Floor, Central Building, Agarkar Nagar, Pune: 411 001  
Phone: 020-26129494, Email: [ddtp.urc@maharashtra.gov.in](mailto:ddtp.urc@maharashtra.gov.in)

Sd/-  
(Kishor Gokhale)  
Dy. Director, Town Planning,  
Urban Research Cell, Pune

DGIPR 2023-2024/6243





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### Hamara Sankalp Viksit Bharat

# Mind The Gap: Metro Reminds Commuters Obstruction Of Coach Gates Will Cost You

Under Metro Railway Act, Punishable With Imprisonment Or A Fine Of Up To ₹10,000 Or Both

Priyangi Agarwal  
@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: A woman passenger, finding the metro train doors closing at Guru Dronacharya station, shoved her bag in the gap to reopen them. The doors, however, closed on the bag and the train moved for a few metres before halting again. The woman's rash action, something that is replicated many times every day on the metro trains, could have led to an accident besides delaying the running time of the train with a cascading effect on subsequent train runs. Delhi Metro Rail Corporation, therefore, complained to police on Tuesday about the obstruction caused to the closing of the coach doors.

After a 35-year-old woman recently died when a train dragged her for several metres after her clothing became stuck in the door, DMRC found in a random surveillance based on CCTV footage that passengers trying to prevent the doors from closing has become a daily occurrence. DMRC reminded on Tuesday that obstruction of the coach gates was an offence under Section 67 of the Metro Railway (Operation and Maintenance) Act, 2002, punishable with imprisonment for a term that may extend to four years or a fine of up to Rs 10,000 or both.

In an incident reported on Monday at GTB Nagar metro station, a woman tried to enter the coach when the gates were closing. Her coat got stuck between the closing doors but the passenger escaped unhurt though the train

## WHEN SAFETY TAKES A BACKSEAT

- 1-2 cases of door obstruction observed daily
- Commuters deliberately restrict the closure of doors using their foot, bags or other objects
- Obstruction of gates can lead to accidents and passengers are likely to sustain injuries
- It also causes damage to metro gates and delays the trains
- Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) has started filing police complaints under Section 67 of Delhi Metro O&M Act for obstruction of gates
- DMRC said it will also impose penalty on such passengers
- People usually obstruct gates to help fellow commuters in entering the coach
- A train stops at a station for 15-30 seconds
- Trains are available at a gap of 3-5 minutes across the metro network during peak hours



Woman puts her bag between gates at Guru Dronacharya station



Man obstructing the gate using his foot and hand



Woman's coat stuck in the gate while she was trying to enter the coach

### What is Section 67 of Delhi Metro O&M Act

Obstructing running of train, etc

➤ If any person obstructs or causes to be obstructed or attempts to obstruct any train or rolling stock upon the metro railway by squatting, picketing or keeping without authority any rolling stock on the metro railway or tampering with any signalling installations or by interfering with the working mechanism thereof, or otherwise, he shall be liable to be removed by any metro railway official, authorised by the metro railway administration in this behalf and shall also be punishable with imprisonment for a term, which may extend to four years, or with fine, which may extend to ten thousand rupees, or with both

### What happens when the gate is obstructed

- Train door takes three attempts to close. If it still remains obstructed, the respective door remains in open condition and the train doesn't move
- Door is manually closed again by the train operator
- If the door fails to close, then the coach is isolated

### How obstructing gate closure can impact the safety of commuters

- If a passenger's belongings get stuck in the train door, it may also get entangled with the passenger's body and may cause injury to the passenger

**TIMES VIEW:** Over the years, the metro has become the heart of the capital's public transport system. It is also the duty of the public to behave responsibly in the stations and on the trains. Any form of misbehaviour should be discouraged because it can not only be dangerous, but also adversely impact hundreds of other commuters. DMRC is justified in imposing a stiff penalty on such travellers. Being lenient can lead to more such cases.

ro stations warning the passengers about the risks involved in such acts and also installing signage to educate people about this. "DMRC already makes announcements inside trains advising passengers to take care of their sari, dhoti, dupatta, bag, etc., while boarding or deboarding. In the wake of the recent incident, additional measures are also being taken, including installing extra signage on platform screen doors and train doors across the rail network," disclosed Anuj Dayal, principal executive director, corporate communications, DMRC.

Dayal said that digital screens existing at the major stations and screens inside the trains are also playing an awareness video that has been specially made on the subject to educate the commuters about the safety precautions to be taken while boarding and alighting from a coach. He added that the company was also using social media handles to disseminate information about the risks in a creative manner.

# 2 women among 3 held for kidnapping infant

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Three people, including two women, have been arrested for allegedly kidnapping a 15-day-old infant from his house in South-West Delhi's Kapashera last Saturday. The accused have been identified as Soni Pal (30), Rani Singh (34) and Pankaj (32). Pal and Pankaj had hatched a plan to sell the infant boy to earn fast money.

Manoj C, DCP, South-West, said, "Pal had three children, but for the last three years, she was in a relationship with Pankaj, who is a taxi driver. Singh's husband has impaired mental faculties and she is looking after her family. Earlier, she used to work at an IVF centre and had contact details of couples who were looking to adopt. Singh had earlier donated her egg in IVF for cash and even taken Pal to donate her egg for money".

The complainant, Bimbi,

alleged that her baby was kidnapped by someone from their house when she had gone out to purchase milk. A case under sections 365 (kidnapping or abducting with intent secretly and wrongfully to confine person), 370 and 81 JJ Act was then registered.

A dedicated team comprising inspector Sunil Kumar and sub-inspector Jasbir Malik was formed to crack the case. While scanning the CCTV footage, cops noticed a woman carrying a baby and rushing towards main Old Gurugram Road. Through further probe and local intelligence, the accused was identified as Pal. On the basis of technical surveillance, the team then arrested Pal and Pankaj. Pal admitted that she had kidnapped the child with the intention to sell him and had left him with Singh.

The child was later recovered from the possession of Singh from Dundahera, Gurgaon.



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\*Those who have opted for this program in CAT 2023 application, need not apply again.

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Timings: 10:00 AM - 7:00 PM

FREE ENTRY

Entry from Gate no. 4, 6 & 10









# A Bid To Ensure Deemed Forests Live Up To Name

Forest Dept Starts Assessment, To Record Change In Tree Density

Priyangi.Agarwal  
@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: The forest department has started assessing the condition of deemed forests in the city to record the change in tree density in such areas. Department officials will visit these areas accompanied by officials of the land-owning agencies and carry out plantation of trees in depleted deemed forests.

The forest department recently filed an affidavit on this matter in Delhi High Court, which is hearing a plea regarding the conditions of the deemed forests. "The department conservators of forests (DCFs) are required to assess the conditions of deemed forest areas, clearly recording the change in tree density and to undertake joint visits to the sites with land-owning agencies to plan re-afforestation. In case of any violation found under extant Acts, rules and

direction of the courts, action may be initiated accordingly," said the affidavit. A forest officer said, "We have directed DCFs and land-owning agencies to determine the space in deemed forests. Plantations will be carried out in the deemed forests' vacant spaces after including the targets in the next financial year's plantation drive."

The forest department also informed the high court that digitalisation of deemed forest land of 1,049.6 hectares and 287.5km in Delhi had been completed, while digitalisation of 656.5 hectares and 93.7km had been partly accomplished, leaving 408.3 hectares and 77km to be tackled. "We have finished digitalisation of deemed forests falling under the forest department and the process is under way for those under the purview of other departments," explained an official.

The forest department has also asked the Union ministry of environment, forests and climate change to clarify if the roadside plantations that were once part of deemed forests could still be termed as deemed forests since the stretches had lost tree density over the years. The forest department has sought this clarification under the Forest Conservation (Amendment) Act after the high court asked the forest department to inform it on the steps taken on the depletion of the deemed forests. Tree activist Bhavreen Kandhari said people should know that there were forests in Delhi other than the ones under the forest department. "Unfortunately, the forests that are under the management of other departments have not been protected in the past years," said Kandhari. "Deemed forests have been destroyed over the years and permission to fell trees in these forests aren't taken under the Forest Conservation Act. There is an urgent need to protect the existing deemed forests before they vanish. Steps also have to be taken to replant trees in these forests to undo the damages of time."

Photos: Piyal Bhattacharjee



South Extension



Naraina

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DIRECTIONS



Visiting Time : 10:00 am - 2:00 pm  
Funeral Service : 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm  
Live Streaming : [bit.ly/DrNeenaMohiniWilliams](https://bit.ly/DrNeenaMohiniWilliams) (YouTube Link)  
Condolences : [celebratingneenawilliams.life](https://celebratingneenawilliams.life)



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— Principal

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— Principal

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**PRT:** Hindi, English, Mathematics, Art, Physical Education

**Special Educator / Occupational Therapist**

**NTT:** Pre-Primary Teachers, Teaching Assistants

**Librarian-Primary and Senior Wing**

**Activity Teacher:** Taekwondo, Music Vocal, Band Instructor, Skating, Dance

Applicants must possess minimum qualification and experience as prescribed by CBSE. Salary is not a constraint for the deserving candidates.

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**TGT:** Reasoning Faculty, Music & Dance Teacher

**PRT:** Computer, EVS, Eng, Hindi, Math, Mother Teacher for pre primary classes

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CORE ISSUE IS SPACE GIVEN TO KHALISTANI FORCES IN CANADA POLITICS: JAISHANKAR | 15

AMIT SHAH ASKS SECURITY FORCES TO SCALE UP COUNTER-TERRORISM OPERATIONS IN J&K | 18

## Gym trainer kills man to claim ₹1cr insurance money, arrested

Sindhu.Kannan  
@timesgroup.com

**Chennai:** Police have arrested a gym trainer on suspicion that he faked his own death by murdering a man who matched his description to claim an insurance payout. Two of the gym trainer's friends have also been arrested as cops believe they participated in the murder plot.

In September 2023, Ayanavaram-based gym trainer Suresh (38) hatched a plan to fake his own death and claim Rs1 crore in life insurance that would come to his family in case of his death, as per the cops. The plan failed because the police recorded a suicide case and the insurance compa-

ny rejected the payout claim. He, along with two of his friends, started searching for a person with a physical resemblance to Suresh, and identified his former tenant, Dillibabu, as a potential body double. The three took Dillibabu to Pudukcherry for a drinking session. He was then alleged-

### PLAN GOES AWRY

ly taken to a farm hut belonging to Suresh's family. The farm hut was burnt down with Dillibabu in it, cops claimed. While Suresh absconded, his family believed he had died in the fire and conducted his last rites.

The twist came when police registered a case of sui-

cide, relying on information provided by Suresh's sister Jayashree. Citing the FIR, the insurance company denied the family an insurance payout, saying the rules did not allow payment of the insured sum in case of death by suicide.

Elsewhere Dillibabu's mother, Leelavathy, was desperately searching for her missing son and moved Madras high court with a habeas corpus petition. Cops came to know that Dillibabu was last seen with Suresh. Acting on this clue, police went to Suresh's village, where his relatives said he was dead. However, when cops traced some of his friends, they got vital leads. A short time later, police apprehended Suresh.

## Why strip the accused in thana lockups, HC asks Maha

Rosy.Sequeira@timesgroup.com

**Mumbai:** Bombay high court has asked the state government why accused are stripped in the lockup of police stations even as an inquiry has held four police officers attached to Tardeo police station responsible for illegally detaining a music teacher and making him strip naked in the lockup.

"Why stripping is necessary of the accused (sic) when they are lodged in lockup," said Justices Revati Mohite-Dere and Gauri Godse in a recent order. The teacher's wife moved HC with a habeas corpus petition to produce her husband. Observing that his fundamental right to life and liberty was violated, the judges had on September 9 last year directed the state to pay him Rs 2 lakh compensation to be recovered from salary of cops responsible for his illegal detention and to order an inquiry into the incident.

In June last year, on a student's complaint that the teacher spoke to her indecently when questioned about fee increase, an FIR was lodged. On July 7, the teacher was booked for sexual harassment and insult to modesty of a woman.

The judges said the teacher's affidavit revealed the cops "insisted that he is stripped naked ... and after a while allowed him to put his underwear."

# CAA rules ready, set to be notified before LS elections

Online Application System In Place, Says Senior Govt Functionary

Bharti.Jain@timesgroup.com

**New Delhi:** The rules for the Citizenship Amendment Act, 2019, will be notified well before Lok Sabha polls are announced, enabling grant of citizenship to eligible migrants from Pakistan, Bangladesh and Afghanistan belonging to their six 'minority' communities, a senior government functionary said on Tuesday.

An online system for application, processing & grant of citizenship under CAA is being explored by home ministry, the functionary added.

CAA was enacted in December 2019 and came into force on January 10, 2020. However, CAA rules are yet to be notified, which is why the Act hasn't been implemented or process started for grant of citizenship to nationals from Pakistan, Bangladesh and Afghanistan belonging to Hindu, Sikh, Jain, Christian, Buddhist & Parsi communities, who had migrated to India before December 31, 2014.

Enactment of the law had sparked large-scale protests with the Muslim community and opposition parties dubbing it discriminatory and calling for its rollback. The delay in notification of



Enactment of the Citizenship Amendment Act, 2019, had sparked large-scale protests with the Muslim community and the opposition parties dubbing it discriminatory and calling for its rollback

rules, which the Centre attributed to the pandemic, had led many to wonder whether the government was still keen to follow through the law by operationalising it.

The government functionary, when asked whether CAA rules would be notified before the announcement of Lok Sabha elections, due in a few months, replied, "Yes, much before that."

The functionary further said, "The rules are ready and the online portal is also in place and the entire process will be online. The applicants will have to declare the year when they entered In-

dia without travel documents. No document will be sought from the applicants." Those who have already applied for citizenship may not be required to apply afresh.

The functionary added that eligible migrants may apply for citizenship under CAA via a dedicated portal of the home ministry, using their mobile phones from wherever they are residing. Though citizenship is a Union subject, the Centre, from time to time, delegates its powers to the state administrative machinery. An online system for applying, processing and grant of citi-

zenship may not require the home ministry to delegate powers for grant of citizenship under CAA. However, the verification will still need to be done by the district administration concerned.

Officials said with the home ministry being the authority to which the application is made, it can keep following up with the district administration to expedite the verification. Online system will enable transparency on the point of delay in processing such citizenship requests.

On December 27, home minister Amit Shah had, while addressing a BJP meeting in Kolkata, said that no one could stop implementation of CAA as it was the law of the land and accused West Bengal CM Mamata Banerjee of misleading people on the issue.

In November, junior home minister Ajay Mishra had declared that CAA rules would be in place by March 30, 2024.

According to the manual of parliamentary procedures, the rules for any legislation should be framed within six months of presidential assent or extension should be sought from the committees on subordinate legislation in Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha.

## To elope, woman kills friend to fake own death; gets life term

Rahul Singh | TNN

**Meerut:** The court of additional district and sessions judge Pawan Shukla in Meerut sentenced a woman, Afshana Begum (32) to life imprisonment for killing her neighbour, Zeenat Begum, by setting her on fire to show herself as dead so that she could elope with her lover of another faith. A testimony by Zeenat's 13-year-old daughter nailed the convict, said the additional district government counsel (ADGC) Mukesh Kumar Mittal.

The ADGC said on Tuesday that the crime came to light on April 2, 2019, when 48-year-old Zeenat was found

dead inside a house in Lisari Gate police station area of Meerut. "Zeenat was married to one Mohd Ashraf who used to mostly stay outdoors for work. Her friend Afshana, who lived in the same neighbourhood, used to often visit her house. Afshana fell in love with one Pravin Kumar, an auto driver, and both wanted to get married, but faith and the censure of her kin came in the way," the ADGC said.

Mittal added: "After watching a TV serial on crime she alone hatched a plot to kill Zeenat in her house. One day when Zeenat came to her house, Afshana set her on fire with a gas cylinder pipe. She

thought everyone would take Zeenat's badly burnt body to be hers and she fled with her lover. But weeks later someone spotted her and the case took a different turn. During court hearings, Zeenat's daughter said her mother would often go to 'Afshana aunty's house' and that one day she didn't return..."

Soon, a complaint was filed by Zeenat's husband as she was last seen at Afshana's house. The house was reopened and cops found Zeenat's earrings, slippers and Aadhaar, which showed she was burnt to death. Afshana was charged with murder and the court handed her life in jail.

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2.	Sr. General Manager Procurement	One (1)	E7
3.	General Manager - Strategic Alliance and Partnership	One (1)	E6
4.	General Manager - Risk and Compliance	One (1)	E6

The candidates desirous to apply are requested to refer to the detailed advertisement available on Organization's website (<https://karmayogibharat.gov.in/careers.php>). Candidates may submit their applications in the prescribed format. The last date for submission of application is 24th January 2024.

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(Chief Operating Officer)

CBC 32201/12/0010/2324

### Short Term Tender Notice

Ref No: MSP/System Cell/516 Dated: 30-12-2023

Board of High School & Intermediate Education, Uttar Pradesh, Prayagraj invites e-tender on the **gem portal website-[gem.gov.in](http://gem.gov.in)** for supply of pre-printed computer stationary to be used in the High School & Intermediate examinations, 2024 which will be conducted by the board.

The rules and regulations of Tender document No. M.S.P./System Cell/ 515 Dated: 30-12-23 comprising of detailed work can be downloaded from the **gem portal website-[gem.gov.in](http://gem.gov.in)** Tender document Will be uploaded on **gem portal website** on 05 January 2024. The last date for uploading completely filled bids on the above mentioned website is **16 January 2024** (till 12 noon). The technical bids will be opened on the same date i.e. **16 January 2024 at 03:00 pm** after downloading the bids in front of all tender committee members and present bidders.

The Secretary, Board of High School & Intermediate Education reserves the right to accept/ reject any tender without assigning any reason.

(Dibyakant Shukla)  
Secretary

### Directorate of Geology and Mining Government of Maharashtra

Email: [mineralblockauction@mahadgm.gov.in](mailto:mineralblockauction@mahadgm.gov.in) Date: 03.01.2024

#### Notice Inviting Tender

"Invitation of bids for grant of Mining Lease for Limestone and Bauxite minerals and for grant of Composite Licence for Bauxite, Copper, Gold, Base Metal, and Iron Ore minerals"

In exercise of the powers conferred by Section 10 (B) of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 and in accordance with the Mineral (Auction) Rules, 2015 notified thereunder, the Government of Maharashtra has identified:

a) 4 (four) mineral blocks [3 (three) blocks of Limestone and 1 (one) block of Bauxite] for electronic auction, and hereby invites bids for the purpose of grant of Mining Lease.

b) 9 (nine) mineral blocks [1 (one) block of Bauxite, 2 (two) blocks of Copper, 1 (one) block of Gold, 4 (four) blocks of Iron ore and 1 (one) block of Base Metal] for electronic auction, and hereby invites bids for the purpose of grant of Composite Licence.

The list of mineral blocks is as under:

S. No.	Name of Block	Mineral	Concession Type
1.	Bamhani Basemetal Block *	Basemetal	Composite Licence
2.	Palive Bauxite Block	Bauxite	Composite Licence
3.	Bhimsain Killa Gold Block	Gold associated with Silver, Lead and Copper	Composite Licence
4.	Matna Iron ore Block	Iron ore	Composite Licence
5.	Ambadgaon Iron ore Block	Iron ore	Composite Licence
6.	Vazare Iron ore Block	Iron ore	Composite Licence
7.	Tale Iron ore Block	Iron ore	Composite Licence
8.	Lal Heli Copper Block	Copper	Composite Licence
9.	Wassera-Sioni Copper Block	Copper	Composite Licence
10.	Wanoja Limestone Block	Limestone	Mining Lease
11.	Kudopi Bauxite Block *	Bauxite	Mining Lease
12.	Kurli Limestone Block	Limestone	Mining Lease
13.	[Pardi (Kinwat) Limestone Block *	Limestone	Mining Lease

**Note:** The abovementioned blocks marked with "\*" are under "second" attempt.

The price of Tender Document for each mineral block is Rs. 5,00,000 (Rupees Five Lakh) inclusive of GST. The GST shall be payable by reverse charge mechanism.

Accordingly, financial bids are invited in digital format only and technical bids are invited both in digital and physical format from eligible bidders.

Eligibility conditions, date and time for participating in the electronic auction are provided in the Tender Document. Detailed Tender Documents along with timelines, notifications, updates and other details for the e-auction process for the mineral blocks are available in electronic form only and can be downloaded from the website of MSTC Limited: (<http://mstccommerce.com/auctionhome/mlcl/index.jsp>).

Interested and eligible bidders can register themselves on the above website. On successful registration, eligible bidders will obtain login ID and password necessary for participation in the e- auction process. Model Tender Document and Mineral Block Summary are available free of cost on the above website.

Key events and their timelines are as under:

Event Description	Date
Date of Publication of Notice Inviting Tender (NIT)	Wednesday, January 03, 2024
Pre-Bid Conference	Wednesday, January 24, 2024
Last date for purchase of Block Specific Tender Document, after payment of a tender fee of Rs. 5,00,000 (Rupees Five lakh only)	Friday, February 16, 2024
The last date for submission of the Technical Bid and initial price offer	Friday, February 23, 2024

#### Note:

Bidders may note that for composite licences the Mineral (Auction) Amendment Rules, 2022 have dispensed with the requirement of indicating the division of the land into forest land, land owned by the State Government, and land not owned by the State Government and the requirement of demarcating the area using total station and differential global positioning system and has provided the flexibility of demarcating the concession area using global positioning system.

However, the requisite demarcation in respect of certain blocks, as and where available, may be provided as part of the information memorandum.

DGIPR/2023-2024/6245

## Government of Uttar Pradesh

Civil Aviation Department

### Advertisement

Civil Aviation Department, Government of Uttar Pradesh has a mixed fleet of aircraft both fixed wing and helicopters. Applications are being invited for the post of Pilot (Fixed Wing) for appointment on contract basis.

Walk-in-Interview will be held on 08 January, 2024 from 11:00 AM onwards at Directorate of Civil Aviation, UP, Lucknow Airport, Lucknow-226009.

For details of Qualifications, Remuneration and Application procedure etc. please visit: <http://cadup.gov.in>

Post:- Pilot (Fixed Wing)

Required for: Fixed Wing Aircraft (Super King Air B200/200GT)

No. of vacancies: 01 (Pilot-in-Command for Super King Air B200/200GT)

Indicative Remuneration: Negotiable depending upon qualification & experience is Rs. 30 to 84 Lakh/annum

Note: Number of vacancies may increase or decrease.

Filled application on the given Format duly signed along with self-attested documents related to qualification, experience etc. (as mentioned) is to be sent to email: [dgca.up@nic.in](mailto:dgca.up@nic.in)

In case of any query feel free to contact 0522-2436504

(Kumar Harsh)  
Special Secretary

UPID-200042/01.01.2024 [www.upgov.nic.in](http://www.upgov.nic.in)

## Government of Jammu & Kashmir Office of the District Mineral Officer, Jammu Department of Geology & Mining, J&K



### e-Auction Notice

On behalf of Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir (Union Territory), it is hereby notified for the information of general public that the e-Auction for grant of mining lease of Minor Mineral Blocks for the period of 05 years in respect of District Jammu (details given in table below) as per Jammu and Kashmir Minor Mineral Concession Storage, Transportation of Minerals and Prevention of Illegal Mining Rules, 2016, shall be conducted on **23-01-2024** by District Auction Committee constituted under Rule 53 of SRC-105.

The e-Auction documents, amendment in e-Auction document, terms and conditions, details of earnest money deposit (EMD equivalent to the amount of royalty payable in one year of the particular block proposed for e-Auction in the shape of CDR pledged to the District Mineral Officer, Jammu) and other relevant details for each Minor Mineral Block along with site plan can be obtained from the official website of the Geology and Mining Department i.e. <https://geologyminingj&k.auction.com> by all the interested parties after creating an online user account with the help of DSC (Digital Signature Certificate), against online payment of Rs. 1000/- for each Minor Mineral Block. The details of Minor Mineral Blocks of District Jammu and timeline for e-Auction are given below :-

Details of Minor Mineral Blocks of District Jammu for e-Auction					
S. No.	Block No.	Description of the Blocks	EMD (in Rupees)	Area (in Hectare)	Geo-Coordinates of the Blocks
1.	4/J	Tawi River at Village Malhori Jagir District Jammu	13,23,000	4.90	A=32°46'46.58"N 74°55'41.89"E B=32°46'48.68"N 74°55'38.29"E C=32°47'0.44"N 74°55'45.41"E D=32°46'58.17"N 74°55'49.50"E
2.	6/J	Tawi River at Village Chak Rakwalwan District Jammu	10,80,000	4.00	A=32°46'24.58"N 74°54'15.94"E B=32°46'31.87"N 74°54'2.38"E C=32°46'30.87"N 74°53'58.90"E D=32°46'21.29"N 74°54'15.19"E
3.	18/J	Nikki Tawi River (Confluence point of Nikki Tawi Balote Nallah) at Village Top Manhasan District Jammu	11,07,000	4.10	A=32°38'51.47"N 74°45'10.27"E B=32°38'55.62"N 74°45'10.36"E C=32°38'58.33"N 74°45'13.62"E D=32°39'3.45"N 74°45'17.09"E E=32°39'2.79"N 74°45'20.34"E F=32°38'55.10"N 74°45'16.94"E
4.	30/J	Sardar Nallah District Jammu	5,40,000	2.00	A=32°45'45.62"N 74°58'59.68"E B=32°45'42.89"N 74°58'50.07"E C=32°45'47.02"N 74°58'47.06"E D=32°45'46.15"N 74°58'52.70"E

Timeline details for all Four Minor Mineral Blocks for e-Auction		
S. No.	Description	Date and time
1.	Last date for online purchase of e-Auction documents against online payment of Rs. 1000 (One Thousand Only) for each Minor Mineral Block.	22.01.2024 (upto 04:30 PM)
2.	Last date for uploading the requisite documents, earnest money and details on auction portal	22.01.2024 (upto 05:30 PM)
3.	e-Auction date and time:	
a)	First Round (Scrutiny of technical bids)	23.01.2024 (9.00 AM to 12.30 PM)
b)	Second Round (Price bidding)	23.01.2024 (1.00 PM to 4.00 PM) (Extendable up to 01 hour as per terms and conditions)

NO: DMO/J/e-Auction/2023-24/2717-25  
Date: 27-12-2023  
(Dr. Gulshan Kumar) JKAS  
District Mineral Officer, Jammu  
(Member Secretary, District level e-Auction Committee)

DIP No: DIP/J-13312/23/01/01/2024



# SC: Bihar should make caste survey data break up public

## 'Will Allow People To Challenge Any Inference Reached By The State'

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**New Delhi:** As Bihar government has started taking policy decisions like enhancing reservation for OBCs on the basis of findings of its caste survey, Supreme Court on Tuesday said the state should make the data public to allow people to challenge a particular inference reached by the state and expressed reservation in passing an interim order to restrain the government.

A bench of Justices Sanjiv Khanna and Dipankar Dutta said the main concern was about the extent to which the breakup of data collected by the government could be put in the public domain so that it

did not lead to violation of the right to privacy of citizens.

Advocate Raju Ramachandran, appearing for petitioners challenging the validity of the survey, sought an interim order stressing the state was moving fast to take decisions based on the survey findings.

"We wish to argue for interim relief once we place the census report on record. The urgency is that the report is being implemented, and reservation has been increased. Since things are moving apace, we would like to argue for interim relief," Ramachandran said.

SC suggested the petitioners file a fresh plea against the policy decisions taken by the state on the basis of the survey



The Bihar caste survey report was released in October last year

but accepted the request for early listing of the matter and posted it to January 29. The petitioners assured the court that they would file a translated copy of the caste survey report before the next hearing.

"What we are more concerned about than the survey report is the breakup of data is not normally made available to the public, which leads to a

lot of problems. The question is to what extent can the government withhold the breakup of the data," the bench said.

Advocate Shyam Divan, appearing for the state, told the bench that the Bihar government had already placed the data in public domain.

In October, SC had turned down a plea to restrain Bihar government from taking decisions on the basis of the caste survey, and said preventing a government from taking a policy decision would be wrong.

On August 1, Patna HC had dismissed a batch of PILs challenging the validity of the caste survey, saying the state's initiative was "perfectly valid and legally competent", and paved the way for the stalled exercise to resume after almost three months. The data collection exercise was completed within days of the HC verdict.

# SC: Can't deny job over trivial mistake while filling up form

AmitAnand.Choudhary  
@timesgroup.com

The SC came to the rescue of a village boy who was denied a police job for an error in the date of birth in his application form

**New Delhi:** Justice cannot be forsaken on the altar of technicalities, Supreme Court said on Tuesday while holding that trivial omissions or errors like genuine fault in mentioning date of birth should not be a ground to deny a job to a successful candidate and came to the rescue of a village boy from Bihar who was denied the job of police constable for his mistake in date of birth.

A bench of Justices J K Maheshwari and K V Viswanathan directed the state to appoint him as police constable, almost six years after he qualified in the written examination and passed the physical fitness test. Noting that the petitioner came from a village background who took the help of an internet cafe owner in a nearby town to fill up the online form in which a mistake was committed by mentioning his date of birth as December 8 while his real DOB was De-

cember 18, the bench said that it was a trivial fault and he couldn't be punished for it.

Justice Viswanathan said though technology is a great enabler, there is at the same time, a digital divide, and justice cannot be forsaken on the altar of technicalities. It granted relief to the petitioner who had to fight a legal battle for six years to make his dream come true to become a police personnel and quashed the order of Patna HC, which upheld the government's decision to disqualify him.

"On the peculiar facts of this case, considering the background in which the error occurred, we are inclined to set aside the cancellation. We are not impressed with the finding of the division bench that there was no prayer seeking quashment of the results declared over the web. A reading of the prayer clause in the writ petition indicates that the appellant did pray for a mandamus directing the respondents to consider the candidature treating his date of birth as December 18, 1997 and also sought for a direction for issuance of an appointment letter. A writ court has the power to mould the relief. Justice cannot be forsaken on the altar of technicalities," the court said.

"In this case, the appellant has participated in the selection process and cleared all stages successfully. Error in the application is trivial which did not play any part in the selection process. The State was not justified in making a mountain out of this molehill," the SC added.

# HC: Woman can seek divorce over sexual perversion

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Kochi:** Kerala high court has held that a wife is entitled to divorce on grounds of physical cruelty if she has been subjected to sexual perversions by her husband against her will.

The court said that different people may define sexually perverse acts differently, but if one of the parties engaging in sex objects to the same but the other person continues, that would amount to cruelty.

A division bench of Justices Amit Rawal and CS Sudha said that if the conduct and character of a person causes misery and agony to the spouse, the said conduct would certainly be an act of cruelty to the spouse, justifying the grant of divorce. "Subjecting the wife to sexual perversions against her will and consent is certainly an act of mental as well as physical cruelty," the HC held.

The couple were married in 2009 and the husband purportedly went abroad for employment after 17 days of cohabitation. After he left, the wife continued to stay in her matrimonial home till November 29, 2009. Gold ornaments and Rs 1 lakh given at the time of her marriage were misappropriated by the husband and his family. On November 29, 2009 the wife was sent out of the matrimonial home by her in-laws. The next day, she and her mother filed a complaint, after which the husband has never contacted her or cared to provide for her. During her brief period of cohabitation with the husband, he had harassed her both physically and mentally. She alleged that he used to subject the petitioner to sexually perverse acts and, when she refused to obey his directions, he had physically assaulted her.

The court noted that while the pleadings did not contain specific details of physical and sexual abuse, the wife had described them in detail when she was cross-examined during the trial of a criminal case in which the husband was charged with cruelty (IPC Section 498A).

# Cong neta moves SC against law dropping CJI from panel appointing CEC & ECs

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**New Delhi:** A Congress leader on Tuesday moved Supreme Court challenging the constitutional validity of three decades-old law on appointment of Chief Election Commissioner and other ECs alleging that the Chief Justice's exclusion from the selection panel of CEC and ECs cast a grave doubt on the commission's

independence, and consequently on the fairness of elections vital for democracy.

Petitioner Jaya Thakur, the general secretary of MP Mahila Congress Committee, said SC in March last year in Anoop Baranwal case had ruled that CEC and ECs would be selected by a panel consisting of the PM, leader of opposition or the leader of the largest opposition party in

Lok Sabha and the CJI. The new law, notified on December 28, has replaced the CJI with a Union cabinet minister.

She said with the Prime Minister and the Union cabinet minister commanding majority in the selection panel, CEC and ECs would be the choice of the party in power thus casting grave doubts about the independence of the Election Commission.

# Notice to police over bail plea in Parl breach case

**New Delhi:** A Delhi court on Tuesday issued notice to Delhi Police on a bail plea filed by Neelam Azad, one of the accused in the Parliament breach case, reports Vineet Upadhyay.

Additional sessions judge Hardeep Kaur sought a response from Delhi Police's Special Cell and scheduled the next hearing for January 10.

Azad, in her plea, alleged that she was produced in court 29 hours after her arrest outside the Parliament House on December 13, 2023, violating Article 22 of Constitution, which sets procedures of arrest and safeguards.

Azad claims not being given adequate time to discuss the circumstances of her arrest with her counsel appointed by the District Legal Services Authority. She added that a single DLSA counsel was appointed for all six accused in the case without giving them choice.

# CJI assures help as trans woman denied teacher's job moves SC

Dhananjay.Mahapatra  
@timesgroup.com

**New Delhi:** She got selected as a teacher in Uma Devi Children's Academy, Khiri in UP and worked for six days but her services were terminated after the school management came to know about her gender orientation.

Frustrated but not shattered, the transgender woman travelled hundreds of kilometres to Gujarat's Jamnagar and was issued an appointment letter to work as a teacher at J P Modi School. However, as luck would have it, just before she had completed formalities to begin life afresh with a stable job, the school management

**Two schools in UP and Gujarat had refused to employ her after coming to know about her gender orientation**

learnt about her unconventional gender orientation and chucked her out.

Finding the decade-old Supreme Court judgment in NALSA case crystallising the rights of transgender persons was of no help to secure her right to equal opportunity to work, the transgender woman has now moved SC seeking justice. The principal contention of the dogged lady, according to counsel Yashraj Singh Deo-

ra, is that discrimination, based on a person's gender orientation, was violative of her fundamental rights.

A bench of Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud, Justices J B Pardiwala and Manoj Misra needed no persuasion to entertain the petition and recorded in its order that the "transgender woman is aggrieved by the fact that her services were terminated by schools in UP and Gujarat immediately after her gender identity was revealed." The bench issued notices to the UP, Gujarat and Union governments and the heads of the two schools. "We will do something," the bench assured the petitioner when she sought interim relief.

### MUNICIPAL CORPORATION CHANDIGARH

#### E-TENDER NOTICE

Sr. No.	Name of Work	Bid Submission Schedule (Online)	Opening Technical Bid (Online)
<b>EXECUTIVE ENGINEER - MCPH Division No. 2</b>			
1.	Operation, maintenance and watch & ward of Public Toilet Blocks in various markets including maintenance of public health & electrical fixtures/ installations complete in all respects for period of 12 months under EE MCPH Division No.2, Chandigarh (Re-invited). Est. Amount : Rs. 1,41,24,000/- EMD : Rs. 2,82,480/- Time Limit : 12 Months	02.01.2024 To 12.01.2024 at 02:00 PM	12.01.2024 at 02:30 PM

Note:- All other terms and conditions and complete DNIT are uploaded on website <https://etenders.chd.nic.in>

**EXECUTIVE ENGINEER**  
M.C.P.H. Division No. 2, Near Karuna Sadan, Sector 11, Chandigarh

## TIMES interact

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### real estate

**Commercial/Residential Land & Property**

Outright Sale Only

Prime Location in City

17500 sq yards on Delhi-Lucknow Road, Opp. Railway Station, Moradabad (U.P.)

Owner 09410282972

tender & notices

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is informed that my husband Shri. Sarangachariyar Rajagopalan S/o Shri. Sarangachariyar, was the owner of Duplex Flat No. 30, third and fourth floor, Aashirwad Apartments, Plot No. 74, IP Extension, Patparganj, Delhi 110 092. He expired on 20/07/2021 and I, Smt. Rajalakshmi Rajagopalan has applied to transfer the above said flat in my name on the basis of surviving member certificate and relinquishment Deed executed on 28/12/2023 duly registered as Document No. 9607 in Book No. 1 Vol No. 3058 on page 109 to 113 dated 28/12/2023, with the office of S.R. VIII-A, Preet Vihar, Delhi. If any objection it may be raised within 15 days of this notice to the Society office of the Delhi Co-operative Group Housing Society Ltd., Plot No. 74, IP Extension, Patparganj, Delhi-110092

Rajalakshmi Rajagopalan  
W/o Late Shri. Sarangachariyar Rajagopalan  
Mob: 98845 25224, 98113 55224

PUBLIC NOTICE

BY WAY OF THIS NOTICE, THE GENERAL PUBLIC IS HEREBY INFORMED AS UNDER:-

\* That Our Client is intending to purchase and acquire all rights, title and interest with respect to the Scheduled Property (more particularly described herein) from Mr. Markandya Mahadevia S/o Late Sh. Arvind Parshad, Resident of A-10, Diplomatic Enclave, Westend Colony, Rao Tula Ram Marg, New Delhi-110021

\* All persons including inter alia any bank and/or financial institution and/or authority having or claiming any right, title, claim, interest or objection of whatsoever nature in respect of the Scheduled Property or any part thereof whether by way of sale, ownership, transfer, exchange, lease, sub-lease, assignment, mortgage, pledge, license, possession, family arrangement settlement, decree or order of any court of law, contracts/agreements, partnership, any writing and/or arrangement or otherwise whatsoever are hereby requested to make the same known in writing to the undersigned having office at 405-405A, 4th Floor, Rectangle 1, Saket District Centre, Saket, New Delhi-110 017, within a period of 7 (seven) days from the date of publication of the instant Notice of his/her/s all such claim, if any, together with all supporting documents duly certified in that regard, failing which such right, title, benefit, interest, claim and/or demand in the said Scheduled Property shall be deemed to have been waived, released, relinquished, and/or abandoned and no such right, title, benefit, interest, claim and/or demand will deem to exist and the transaction upon the Scheduled Property shall be consummated.

THE SCHEDULED PROPERTY ABOVE REFERRED TO All that piece and parcel of land being Residential Plot No. 10, Block A, admeasuring 1200 Sq. Yards, situated at Diplomatic Enclave, Westend Colony, Rao Tula Ram Marg, New Delhi-110 021 together with the building/ structures standing thereon and bounded as follows:

On the North : Green Belt  
On the South : Service Road  
On the East : Plot No. A-11  
On the West : Plot No. A-9

Dated this 1st day of January, 2024

For **Hammurabi & Solomon Partners,**  
Advocates and Corporate Law Advisors  
Sd/- (Shweta Bharti)  
Senior Partner

PUBLIC NOTICE

Flat bearing No. 119, on Second & Third Floors, Category-III, alongwith Car Garage, South Park Apartment, B-Block, Kalkaji, New Delhi-110019 Be it known to all that Ms. Dipti Sharma, representing herself to be the absolute / lawful owner and in peaceful physical possession of the Subject Property, has agreed to sell the Subject Property to my Client/s, free from all encumbrances, charges, lien, mortgages, Will, family dispute etc., vide written Agreement to Sell and has also received substantial advance money from my Client/s.

Any person(s), Association, Company, Firm, Bank, Financial Institution and any Legal Entity having any sort of right, claim, title or interest in the Subject Property, may put forth his/ her/ its claim to the undersigned with supporting documentary proof, within 15 (fifteen) days from the publication of this notice, failing which it shall be presumed that the Subject Property is free from all sorts of encumbrances, charges, lien etc. and my Client/s shall proceed to complete the transaction, as bonafide purchaser and for any such claim raised thereafter shall not be binding upon my client in any manner whatsoever.

AMIT V. AWASTHI (Advocate, Supreme Court of India)  
D-36, Pamposh Enclave, ND-48  
Ph. 011-45532238, 9891317238

TENDERS

E-AUCTION NOTICE- (FIRE DAMAGED MS, ALUMINIUM, COPPER, MIX STRUCTURE MATERIAL ALONG WITH STOCK OF NYLON, PP, PET AND POLYESTER ETC.)

E- Auction forms are invited strictly on "As is Where Is" basis, on "KG basis" for disposal of fire damaged MS 7.2 MT, Aluminium 3.2 MT, Copper 8.9 MT, mix structure material 12.33 MT along with stock comprising of Nylon - 62 MT, Polyester- 69.69MT, PET-193.311 MT, PP -14 MT and mix material weighing around 37.62 MT of M/s AYM Syntex Ltd. (Hereinafter to be read as "Seller")

Damaged Material can be inspected at M/s AYM Syntex Ltd, Survey No. 394 (P), Village Saily, Silvassa Rakholi, U.T. Dadra & Nagar Haveli - 396230 between 03/01/24 to 13/01/24.

E-Auction to be held on 15/01/24 and 16/01/24. For E-Auction forms, Contact Mr. Ashish Rajak at Mob: 9870570511 of Optimum Realiser E-auctioner Pvt Ltd (Auctioneers) Address: 122,1st Floor, SRS Tower, Near Mewala Maharajpur Metro Station, Sec- 31, Faridabad- 121001. Last date for submission of E-auction form is 15/01/24 before 06.30 PM.

COURT NOTICE

HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA AT CHANDIGARH

1. FAO No. 884 of 2013 & 2. FAO No. 885 of 2013  
Date of Hearing: 18.03.2024(A) 1 & 2 National Insurance Co. Ltd.

V/s  
1&2 Meenakshi Khanna & others  
Respondents

Appeal u/s 173 of Motor Vehicles act 1988.

Notice to: Respondents: 6/2. Vipul Sharma son of Late Shri Rajinder Pal Sharma, R/o H. No. 256-A, Paschim Vihar, New Delhi, and R/o H. No. 278, Gali No. 6, Shaheed Udhav Singh Nagar, Amritsar deceased Rajinder pal Sharma now represented, owner of truck No. DL-1G-1359).

6/2. Vipul Sharma son of Late Shri Rajinder Pal Sharma, R/o H. No. 256-A, Paschim Vihar, New Delhi, and R/o H. No. 278, Gali No. 6, Shaheed Udhav Singh Nagar, Amritsar deceased Rajinder pal Sharma now represented, owner of truck No. DL-1G-1359).

7/3. Kuldeep Raj, son of Late Shri Des Raj Sharma, R/o H. No. 147, Gali Backside of Mahajan Palace Majitha Road, Amritsar, (Driver of Truck No. DL-1G-1359).

8/4. Sohan Lal, Son of Shri Tani Ram, Resident of Puaragarh, Relief Camp, New Delhi.

In the above titled appeal, the respondent(s)/defendant(s) could not be served in ordinary process: it is ordered that the respondent(s)/defendant(s) should appear in person or through counsel on 18-03-2024. For details logon to [www.highcourtchd.gov.in](http://www.highcourtchd.gov.in)

# Coffee spilled on laptop, court denies damages

Pettee.Peter@timesgroup.com

**Bengaluru:** After accidentally spilling coffee on her brand-new Apple laptop and being charged for repair, despite having AppleCare+ coverage for product damage, a Bengaluru woman sued Apple India, but lost the case. The company successfully argued that unexpected or unintentional damage to internal parts due to liquid spills weren't covered under AppleCare+.

The 31-year-old woman purchased a MacBook Pro 13-inch laptop on January 5 last

year. She paid Rs 1.74,307 for the device and also purchased an AppleCare+ coverage for Rs 22,900, which promised unlimited incidents of accidental damage protection.

A few days later, she accidentally spilled coffee on the keyboard, after which the device stopped powering up. She approached the store and deposited the laptop with a complaint. Claiming that internal damage to the laptop caused by the liquid was not covered completely under AppleCare+, the seller returned the damaged laptop.

On January 23, the woman approached the third additional district consumer disputes redressal commission with a complaint against Apple India Pvt Ltd, iCare Ample Technologies and Imagine Store, accusing them of unfair trade practices.

In its verdict, the consumer court noted that the customer, despite approaching the court, had contacted Apple's authorised service centre and got the damaged laptop fixed on February 4. She had concealed the matter in the complaint and failed to prove her claim.

**बिहार सरकार**

### PATNA SMART CITY LIMITED

#### NOTICE FOR EMPLOYMENT IN PSCL

Advt. No-01/2024

Sl No.	Name of Post	No of Posts	Category of Post	Upper Age Limit	Minimum Qualification	Experience	Consolidated Pay/month
1	Sr. Manager (Technical)	02	SC-01 UR-01	50 Years	For Contractual- B. E/ B.tech (Civil Engineering)	Not less than 10 years of post-qualification experience in relevant field.	100,000/-
2	Manager (IT)	01	UR-01	40 Years	B.E/B.Tech/ MCA in computer Science/ IT or Equivalent	(i) Not less than 06 years of post-qualification experience in reputed organization. (ii) Experience of working with Govt. organization will be an added advantage.	85,000/-

**General Instruction**

- Detail information and application form can be downloaded from website: <http://www.patnasmartcity.pscil.co.in>
- Application form with complete details should be sent through E-mail on [patnasmartcity.pscil@gmail.com](mailto:patnasmartcity.pscil@gmail.com) latest on dated 30/01/2024 with all attachments. Applications received after the due date and time will not be accepted. Applicant should clearly mention the post applied for in the Application Form.
- Recruitment on the posts will be on consolidated salary on contractual basis till 30.06.2024 or completion of Smart City Mission whichever is earlier. Candidates once recruited by Patna Smart City Ltd will be restricted to offer their services elsewhere. All posts are non-practising in nature.
- Candidates serving in Government Department/Undertaking are required to produce No Objection Certificate at the time of interview. Incomplete application form without necessary detail or application form submitted without Qualification/Experience certificates or untested certificates will automatically lead to rejection and shall not be considered further.
- Application fee/SC/ST category is INR 250/- and other INR 500/- to be deposited online (NEFT/IMPS/RTGS) in Patna Smart City Ltd. in Savings Account No. 73211100000023, IFSC code: PUNB0MBG06, with Dakshin Bihar Gramin Bank Branch Kankarbagh Patna-800020 and proof attached with the application to be submitted online.
- All allowances are included in the pay as indicated against each post. Qualification criteria laid down for each post is Minimum and does not imply that every applicant possessing the same will be called for interview. PSCL reserves the right to evaluate the proposal as per its requirements. Preference will be given to candidates with higher qualification and relevant experience. In the event of qualification or experience certificate, age proof, caste certificate or any other document found to be incorrect or false after the recruitment, the employment contract will be terminated and suitable legal action will be initiated against the candidate. In this case PSCL will have right to reclaim any or all compensation paid to the candidate.
- The cut of date for upper age limit & post Qualification experience shall be 1<sup>st</sup> December 2023.
- PSCL reserves the right to reject any or all application at any time without assigning any reasons whatsoever. In special circumstances the entire process of recruitment can be suspended or cancelled and decision of "Managing Director, PSCL" in this regard will be final and binding. The jurisdiction for any dispute redressal will be court at Patna only.
- Qualification criteria laid down for the post is Minimum and does not imply that every applicant possessing the same will be called for interview. PSCL reserves the right to evaluate the proposal as per its requirements.
- Candidates shall have to submit a declaration that neither he has been charged /convicted from any Hon'ble Court nor dismissed/removed /compulsory retired by way of punishment from the service of any Public Undertaking/ Private Sector or from Govt. Department nor he has been declared insolvent by any court.
- Shortlisted candidates will be informed about interview and further process through website and email.

Address: Patna Smart City Ltd. 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, ICCB Building, SSP Office Campus, North Gandhi Maidan, Patna-800001.  
T: 0612-2200634 Email:- [patnasmartcity.pscil@gmail.com](mailto:patnasmartcity.pscil@gmail.com),  
Website:- [www.patnasmartcity.pscil.co.in](http://www.patnasmartcity.pscil.co.in)

Managing Director  
Patna Smart City Limited

PR. No. 014552 (N.I.) 2023-24

This information is available on website [state.bihar.gov.in/prdibihar](http://state.bihar.gov.in/prdibihar) also

नशे से बचने का है एक ही उपचार, दृढ़ संकल्प और परिवार से प्यार।

# Man suspects infidelity, kills wife, 3 kids:

**S**uspecting infidelity, a 34-year-old man murdered his wife and three minor children – aged 18 months, four and five years – in their sleep in Chhattisgarh's Bilaspur. The accused, Umendra Kewat, walked into the Hirri police station on Tuesday and told cops that he strangled his family with a rope.

Preliminary investigation suggested that Kewat attacked his family in a fit of rage after quarrelling with his wife, the police said. TNN

# 4 of family burn to death after short circuit:

**F**our members of a family were charred to death in their sleep after a fire, allegedly caused by a short circuit, engulfed their thatched hut in Bihar's Begusarai district Monday night, reports Rajiv Kumar.

The deceased were Niraj Paswan (32), his wife Kavita Devi (25) and their children Kush (5) and Luv (3). Their neighbour Gauri Paswan, whose house was also gutted, said the flames were so high that nobody dared to go in to rescue the family.



## Strong buzz of Nitish as INDIA convener before virtual meet

Patna: As the INDIA bloc partners gear up for seat-sharing talks, there was a strong buzz in Bihar's political circles Tuesday that CM and JD(U) chief Nitish Kumar could be declared convener of the opposition alliance at a virtual meeting Wednesday, reports **Madan Kumar**. Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge might be appointed chairperson of the grouping, sources said.

According to insiders in the state's Grand Alliance, the likely move to make Nitish INDIA convener comes at the initiative of Congress, which is keen to avoid any rumblings within the alliance at a time when Rahul Gandhi is setting out on his two-month-long Manipur-to-Mumbai Bharat Nyaya Yatra on January 14.

"The Congress leadership wants to keep the house of INDIA bloc in order before Rahul embarks on his yatra," a senior leader said. The constant speculation about Nitish being unhappy and mulling a return to the NDA fold is believed to have made the grand old party edgy. In fact, Rahul had reached out to the Bihar CM after the last meeting of the bloc in Delhi last month.

## 'Law applies to all hit-and-run cases involving all vehicles'

►Continued from P 1

We had a very fruitful discussion with the home secretary and they have taken note of the concerns expressed by drivers," he said.

On Monday and Tuesday, a large number of truck drivers and transporters refused to ply their vehicles protesting against the provision in the BNS providing for up to 10-year jail term and fine for not informing police after an accident resulting in death. BNS, which was ratified by Parliament last month, provides for a sentence of up to five years for those who inform police or the magistrate after an accident.

Under the Indian Penal Code, the current law, a two-year jail term and penalty is provided for such offence and truckers fear that they would be hit hard by the new law.

**In 2022, hit-and-run cases led to nearly 51,000 deaths on Indian roads, accounting for nearly 30% of the total fatalities that added up to over 1.7 lakh, according to home ministry data**

Government sources, however, said the provision applies to all hit-and-run cases involving any vehicle and does not target just truck or bus drivers.

In 2022, hit-and-run cases led to nearly 51,000 deaths on Indian roads, accounting for nearly 30% of the total fatalities that added up to over 1.7 lakh, according to ministry data.

Truckers have argued that usually they are at the receiving end in most accidents as police file cases against "bigger vehicles" against "smaller vehicles" without proper investigation. They also said that often truckers drive away from the spot fearing mob fury.

Government sources said truckers need to stay at the spot after an accident and can inform the authorities even over the phone.

## Kundu moves SC as HP removes him as DGP on HC order

Shimla: The Himachal Pradesh government appointed DGP Sanjay Kundu as the principal secretary (Ayush) on Tuesday. This was in response to the Himachal Pradesh high court's order to the state government on December 26 to promptly reassign DGP Kundu and Kangra SP Shalini Agnihotri to alternative positions where they cannot potentially influence the ongoing investigation into complaints filed by a Palampur-based businessman.

Simultaneously, Satwant Atwal Trivedi, a 1996-batch IPS officer and ADGP (SV&ACB), has been assigned the additional charge of DGP until further orders.

Kundu has moved the Supreme Court, challenging the high court order to remove him as DGP. The top court will hear his petition on Wednesday.

Himachal chief minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu clarified that Kundu's reassignment is a promotion and not a removal.

# Mahua faces charge of snooping on 'ex-BF'

## 'Call Recorded With Help From Bengal Cops'

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Advocate Jai Anant Dehadrai, whose 'cash-for questions' complaint against Mahua Moitra led to her expulsion from Lok Sabha, has accused the Trinamool Congress leader of carrying out "illegal surveillance on her ex-boyfriend" with help from senior cops in West Bengal.

In a complaint filed with the CBI and the home ministry, the Supreme Court lawyer alleged that Moitra had illegally obtained call detail records (CDR) of her ex-boyfriend after getting suspicious that he was having an affair with a German woman, a senior functionary of a social media giant.

"I was shocked to learn that Moitra, with the assistance of senior Bengal police officers, had the entire CDR history of her ex-boyfriend in which she had precise information about the individuals who had been in contact with her ex-boyfriend as also the precise physical location of his



In a complaint filed with the CBI and the home ministry, Supreme Court lawyer Jai Anant Dehadrai alleged that Moitra had illegally obtained call detail records of her ex-boyfriend after getting suspicious that he was having an affair with a German woman

phone for all hours of the day," he said in his complaint while attaching screenshots of some chats and a purported CDR list.

Responding to the fresh allegations and the demand for a CBI probe, Moitra said on X, "Urging MHA to set up

a special director CBI to probe all complaints by jilted exes pan-India. Happy to see Shahenshah of all Peeping Toms ccd on complaint. He honed his surveillance skills covering up for his Sahib in Gujarat. Can get to bottom of this as well. Good luck."

Dehadrai, who was in a relationship with Moitra before they parted ways, further wrote in his complaint that when he questioned her and voiced his disapproval, Moitra simply responded that she had certain rights as a Member of Parliament, including "keeping tabs on whoever she pleases". She categorically stated that certain IPS officials in Bengal police were obligated to her and could not, therefore, turn down her demand, the lawyer alleged.

Expressing threat to his life, he said he had very strong reasons to believe that Moitra was using her contacts with senior officers of Bengal police to carry out illegal surveillance on him.

## IIT-Guwahati student from T'gana dies after NY party

Kangkan.Kalital@timesgroup.com

Guwahati: A female student of IIT Guwahati from Telangana was declared dead in hospital after being rushed there unconscious on Monday following a New Year's party outside the campus, police said Tuesday.

Pulluri Aishwarya (21), a fourth-year student of electronics and communication engineering, had parted late Sunday at a pub in Guwahati with three friends from the institute, hours after having returned from hometown Kamrinagar, the police said.

As the party wound up late and the campus was shut at that odd hour, Aishwarya and the friends—two men and a woman—went to a hotel near the pub, hoping to spend the night there and return to the IIT the next morning, a hotel staffer said.

A few hours after checking in, early on January 1, Aishwarya complained of suffocation. An ambulance was called and she was taken to Gauhati Medical College and Hospital (GMCH), where the doctors declared her dead.

"The IIT Guwahati student was brought to our hospital Monday morning. At 8.19 am, we declared her dead," GMCH hospital superintendent Abhijit Sarma said. Aishwarya's three friends were questioned and allowed to go later, the police said, adding they were exploring all angles in the probe.

"Police intimidated her family and IIT Guwahati staff immediately," said DCP Guwahati Amitabh Basumatary.

# Govt: Women can now nominate kids over husband for pension

New Delhi: A woman employee can now nominate her child or children for family pension in precedence over her husband in case of marital discord, the Centre said on Tuesday.

Rule 50 of the Central Civil Services (Pension) Rules, 2021 allows the grant of family pension following the death of a government servant or retired government servant.

If a deceased government servant or pensioner is survived by a spouse, family pension is first granted to the spouse. Other family members become eligible for family pension, on their turn, only after the spouse of the deceased government servant/pensioner becomes ineligible for family pension or dies, according to the rules.

The department of pension and pensioners' welfare (DoPPW) has now amended

ly after the spouse of the deceased government servant/pensioner becomes ineligible for family pension or dies, according to the rules.

The department of pension and pensioners' welfare (DoPPW) has now amended

## DISCORD CASES

the rules and allowed a woman employee to nominate her child/children over her husband for the family pension.

"The amendment allows disbursement of family pension of a female government servant to an eligible child in precedence to her husband,

in all cases where she has filed a divorce petition or a petition under the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act or cases under Indian Penal Code," DoPPW Secretary V Srinivas said.

He said the amendment was formulated by DoPPW in consultation with the ministry of women and child development taking into consideration representations received.

"The amendment is progressive in nature and empowers women employees in family pension cases," said Srinivas, a 1989-batch IAS officer of Rajasthan cadre.

# JEE-Main's new rule: Biometric & frisking even after toilet break

Manash.Gohain@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: Candidates appearing for JEE-Main will be subjected to frisking and biometric attendance after a toilet break too. The National Testing Agency (NTA) is introducing stricter guidelines during the tests slated this month which will include frisking and biometric identification process also for officials from the agency.

The Joint Entrance Examination (Main) will also be conducted in centres in Bastar in Chhattisgarh and

Tura in Meghalaya for the first time.

As first reported by the TOI on December 8, 2023, at 12.3 lakh registration, JEE (Main) this year received the highest ever applications and crossed the 10 lakh mark for the first time. The number is expected to rise with new candidates likely to apply for the April 2024 exams.

According to NTA officials, these measures are necessary to ensure safe delivery of the tests as well as to offer a fair field for hardworking candidates.

"Continuous improve-

ment is what we are looking at. Moreover with advance notification and registration we are having ample time to work upon security measures and preparedness as well," said Subodh Kumar Singh, director general, NTA.

Singh added, "Apart from the biometric attendance and frisking at the entry, candidates will be frisked and biometric attendance will be taken again on entry from toilet breaks. Not just candidates, even officials and other staff, including helps will undergo frisking and biometric attendance."

# Truck drivers' strike disrupts supply chain across states

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

A nationwide strike by truckers and transporters demanding the withdrawal of stringent penalties for hit-and-run cases has caused disruptions in public services and the supply chain across various states.

The strike, ongoing since Monday, has led to traffic disruptions, shortages in LPG cylinders, increased vegetable prices, and delays in public transport, affecting fuel and essential commodities.

Several states are grappling with the consequences of the ongoing protest, raising concerns about the potential escalation of the situation.

Uttar Pradesh experienced a significant drop in the supply of essential items like fuel, fruits, and vegetables. The strike has also affected medicine supplies, with warnings of potential shortages as deliveries from Maharashtra and Delhi have been disrupted.

Petrol pumps in Lucknow reported a surge in demand, with stocks expected to last only until Wednesday



Trucks parked at a depot following drivers' strike at Solapur in Maharashtra on Tuesday

morning. Over 4,600 buses stayed idle, impacting city transport, while essential supplies saw a steep decline.

In Sitapur Mandi, the number of trucks delivering vegetables halved from 30 to 15, leading to increased prices — potatoes rose from Rs 9 to Rs 18 a kg, and onions from Rs 18 to Rs 35 a kg. A 20% decline in daily supplies to vegetable markets was noted.

Across Maharashtra cities like Pune, Nashik, and Kolhapur, petrol pumps faced increased demand as motorists engaged in panic buying. Over 30 petrol pumps in Nashik district and 11 in city areas ran out of fuel stock.

The wholesale market in

Mumbai recorded a decrease in supplies on Tuesday, particularly from outstation sources. Vegetable prices remained stable, but concerns arose about future impacts. The APMC in Nashik, a major wholesale vegetable market, reported a 25% reduction in supplies.

In Rajasthan, tourists and passengers faced significant challenges, with 20% of petrol pumps reported dry. Bus depots in Jaipur reported delays of two to three hours, and vegetable prices in some parts of Rajasthan doubled on Tuesday.

Punjab's home secretary Gurkirat Kirpal Singh reassured the public of sufficient fuel stocks, saying the state has 22,600 kilo litres of petrol and 1.20 lakh kilo litres of diesel against daily consumptions of 3,500 and 10,000 kilo litres, respectively.

Uttarakhand witnessed a statewide strike affecting bus services and essential commodity supplies, with concerns over fuel availability. In Bengal, protesting truckers blocked highways in several areas, including Kidderpore in Kolkata.

# A driver can escape harsher penalty by informing police

Bharti.Jain@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: The driver of a vehicle that accidentally hits a person or another vehicle, causing death, but informs the police or emergency helpline '108' of the accident soon after, whether from the accident site or elsewhere, will not be prosecuted under the more stringent provision of Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) that provides for up to 10 years' imprisonment and fine.

As per Section 106 (2) of BNS, which is yet to come into force, "whoever causes death of any person by negligent driving of vehicle not amounting to culpable homicide, and escapes without re-

porting it to a police officer or a magistrate soon after the incident, shall be punished with imprisonment... which may extend to 10 years, and shall also be liable to fine."

However, the maximum punishment under Section 106 (1), which relates to a person causing death of another by rash or negligent act not amounting to culpable homicide, is imprisonment up to five years and fine.

While Section 106 (1) is bailable, Section 106 (2) is non-bailable.

Sources said the duration of sentence in hit-and-run cases was increased under BNS in line with observa-

tions of the Supreme Court in several cases that strict action should be taken against drivers who drive recklessly, cause accidents resulting in someone's death and then flee the scene.

A senior officer on Tuesday explained that it was entirely up to the driver to escape the harsher penalty under Section 106 (2) by calling the emergency helpline '108' soon after the accident and informing that the passenger or passengers of the vehicle hit by him is/are injured, give his own and vehicle details as well as location of the accident site and volunteer to cooperate in the investigation as and when required.

**Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises**  
Govt of India, Okhla, Phase - III, New Delhi 110020

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**INDRAPRASTHA INSTITUTE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DELHI**  
(A State University established by Govt. of NCT of Delhi)

**TENDERS FOR PROVIDING FULL-TIME STAFF CAR SERVICES AT IIIT DELHI CAMPUS OKHLA PHASE-III, NEW DELHI-110020**

Indraprastha Institute of Information Technology (IIIT-D), Okhla, New Delhi, a State University established by the Govt. of NCT of Delhi, invites Sealed Tenders for Providing Full-Time Staff Car Services at IIIT Delhi. The complete document and Terms and Conditions may be downloaded from the website of IIIT Delhi at <https://www.iiitd.ac.in/tenders>.

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An Institution of National Importance  
(Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India)

**Walk-in-Interview**  
Advt. No. NFSU/RECRUIT/CON/01/2024

Walk-in-Interview for the various Teaching & Research posts (Contractual) is scheduled on **16/01/2024 at 11.00 am** for the School of Law, Forensic Justice & Policy Studies and for the School of Medico-Legal Studies of NFSU Gandhinagar Campus. For more details visit [www.nfsu.ac.in](http://www.nfsu.ac.in).

Date: 02/01/2024  
INF/2125/23-24

Sd/-  
Campus Director  
Gandhinagar Campus

**APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION**

General Public is hereby informed that an unidentified dead body of a male, **Name: Unknown S/o Unknown, R/o Unknown**. **Age: about 35 years, Height: 5'0", Complexion: Wheatish, Face: Oval, Built: Thin, Wearing: Blue & Grey coloured jacket, Grey coloured lower and Barefoot**, was found at 12:01 AM from Near Dariba Kalan Road, Near P.S. Jama Masjid, Delhi. The dead body has been preserved for 72 hours at the Mortuary of MAMC for identification. In this regard a **DD NO.43A, dated 25.12.2023** has been lodged at P.S. Jama Masjid, Delhi.

If any one having any clue about deceased male may kindly inform the undersigned and contact on following numbers.

**SHO**  
**P.S. Jama Masjid, Delhi**  
Ph.: 011-23267977, 23261625  
Mob.: 8750870422

DP/40/CD/2024

**राष्ट्रीय मत्स्यिकी विकास बोर्ड**  
National Fisheries Development Board

मत्स्यपालन विभाग/Department of Fisheries  
मत्स्यपालन, पशुपालन और डेडो मत्स्यपालन / Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying  
भारत सरकार / Government of India

प्लॉट नं. 235, पी.सी.एस. ऑफिस रोड, इंदिरा नगर, सी.बी.डी.ए. 5, इंदौर-500052  
Pillar No: 235, PVNR Expressway, SVNPA Post, Indorabad-500 052  
फ़ोन/Phone No. 040-24000201, फैक्स/Fax No. 040-2401 5568, ईमेल/Email: info.nfdb@nic.in

**Invitation of tenders for Event Management**  
NFDB/BI/NFDB/PMSYS(CELL)/OR/RDP/2023-24 Date: 03-01-2024

The National Fisheries Development Board, Hyderabad invites tenders through CPP Portal for "Selection of Event Management Agency to Make Arrangements for The Special Guests of Department Fisheries Attending Republic Day Parade at Kartavyapath, New Delhi on 26<sup>th</sup> January, 2024". Interested firms/organizations/institutes involved in providing the above services may please visit website [www.nfdb.gov.in](http://www.nfdb.gov.in) or <https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app> and submit the bids in prescribed formats on or before 05.01.2024 and hard copies of the tender may be submitted to NFDB, Hyderabad.

Sd/-  
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

Ph. - 06670-235504  
E-Mail: [serwbpt@yahoo.com](mailto:serwbpt@yahoo.com)

**GOVT. OF ODISHA**  
**OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER**  
**RURAL WORKS, CIRCLE, BHAWANIPATNA**  
Bid Identification No.: BPT/Online-42/2023-24 Date- 01.01.2024

**NOTICE INVITING TENDERS FOR BUILDING WORKS IN ODISHA NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING THROUGH e-Procurement**

1. Name of the Work : Construction of Building Works in the District of Kalahandi and Nuapada.  
2. No. of Works : 04 Nos.  
3. Location details : Kalahandi and Nuapada District  
4. Estimated Cost : As per NIT.  
5. Period of Completion : As per NIT.  
6. Cost of tender paper : Rs.10,000/- per set.  
7. Other details :

Availability of tender for online bidding	Last date & time for seeking tender clarification	Date and time of opening of technical bid
From 08.01.2024 11:00 A.M.	To 24.01.2024 5:00 P.M.	22.01.2024
		25.01.2024 at 11.00 A.M.

Further details can be seen from the website "[www.tendersorissa.gov.in](http://www.tendersorissa.gov.in)"

Sd/-  
Chief Construction Engineer  
Rural Works Circle, Bhawanipatna  
OIPR-25102/11/0057/23-24

**ICAR-INDIAN GRASSLAND AND FODDER RESEARCH INSTITUTE,**  
NEAR PAHUJ DAM, GWALIOR ROAD, JHANSI-284 003

F.No. 1-7/MO/Rec/2022-23 Dated: 29.12.2023

**Inviting the application for engagement of Part Time Medical Doctors**

Applications are invited for engagement of Part Time Medical Doctors (one male & one Female) for a period of one year (on six monthly basis) as per terms & conditions mentioned in the advertisement available on the website of the Institute. Candidates are advised to visit ICAR-IGFRI website : [www.igfri.res.in](http://www.igfri.res.in) for details before applying.

I/c HEAD OF OFFICE

**CENTRAL COUNCIL FOR RESEARCH IN UNANI MEDICINE**  
(Ministry of Ayush, Govt. of India)  
61-65, Institutional Area, Opp. D-Block, Janakpuri, New Delhi-110 058

Applications are invited from candidates fulfilling the eligibility conditions for filling up the following purely contractual posts in Central Council for Research in Unani Medicine, an Autonomous Organization under the Ministry of Ayush. Only those candidates who are found eligible as per the criteria will be called for the Interview, for which the date and time will be intimated in due course. Eligible candidates may submit their applications in the prescribed format (which may be downloaded from the website of the Council ([www.ccrum.res.in](http://www.ccrum.res.in))) along with copies of educational and experience certificates to the Director General, CCRUM, Hqrs., 61-65, Institutional Area, opposite D-Block, Janakpuri, Delhi-110058 within the 15 days of the issue of this advertisement.

Sr. No.	Name of the posts	No. of post
1.	Consultant (Legal)	01
2.	Consultant (Admn)	01

2. Complete details about the eligibility conditions, place of posting, remuneration etc. of above mentioned contractual post may be downloaded from the Council's website [www.ccrum.res.in](http://www.ccrum.res.in). Any addendum/corrigendum shall be posted only on Council's website.

Administrative Officer  
for and on behalf of Director General, CCRUM

**NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNICAL TEACHERS' TRAINING & RESEARCH, KOLKATA**  
(Under Ministry of Education, Government of India)  
Block-FC, Sector-III, Salt Lake City, Kolkata-700106  
Phone: 033 6625 1919 / 033 2337 4125  
Website: [www.nitttrkol.ac.in](http://www.nitttrkol.ac.in)

**VACANCY NOTIFICATION**  
Advt. No. 09/2023-24

Opening Date: 03-01-2024 Closing Date of online application: 09-02-2024

ONLINE applications are invited from the Indian Nationals for filling up the following posts on Direct Recruitment basis.

DETAILS OF POSTS:

S. No.	Name of the Post	Pay Level and Pay	Age Limit in Years	No. of Post(s)	Category-wise number of posts
					UR OBC SC ST EWS
1.	Professor	L-14 (₹1,44,200- ₹2,11,800)	55*	05	2 1 1 1 0
2.	Associate Professor	L-13A1 (₹1,31,400- ₹2,04,700)	45*	02	1 1 0 0 0
3.	Professor of Practice	₹1,00,000/- per month (consolidated)	70	01	1 0 0 0 0
4.	Section Officer Grade II (Secretarial)	L-6 (₹35,400- ₹1,12,400)	40	01	1 0 0 0 0

\* Preferably below age limit.

For further details of qualifications, experience and how to apply, please visit Institute website <<http://www.nitttrkol.ac.in>>. The last date of receipt of hard copy of applications at NITTTR, Kolkata is 19-02-2024.

Director



**Government of Karnataka Water Resources Development**  
O/o The Executive Engineer, No. 1 Irrigation Investigation Division, WRDO Mysuru-570020. e-mail : no1eeid@gmail.com

**NATIONAL HYDROLOGY PROJECT (World Bank Aided) CORRIGENDIUM NOTICE-01 dated :28-12-2023**

This is with reference to Tender notification IFB No: KA NHP-SW/07/2023-24 dated: 07-12-2023; (WRD/2023-24/OW/WORK\_INDENT26) published on 13th December 2023 in Times of India for the work of The Supply, Installation, Testing, Commissioning and Maintenance of RTDAS Comprising of 42 Automatic Weather Station(AWS) & 13 Automatic Water Level Recorder (AWLR) with Telemetry System for Reservoirs/Barrages/Rivers in Southern Karnataka and integrate with Data Center located at Bangalore, Karnataka under NHP. As there were few amendments to the bid documents and in order to give prospective bidders reasonable time to take into account in preparing their bids, the Tender Schedule is revised and extended as below. **The Last date & time for submission of bid is 18-01-2024 upto 4.00 p.m. and The Bid opening Date: 19-01-2024 at 4.30p.m.** All other terms and conditions will remain unchanged. Visit the <https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in> website for latest information related to this bid.

Sd/-, Executive Engineer, No.1, IID, Mysuru

**NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY**

Tender Notice No.: 40-Elect/G/PRYJ/23-24 Dated: 28.12.2023

**E-TENDER NOTICE**

Senior Divl. Electrical Engineer/Gen/N.C.Rly/Prayagraj, for and on behalf of the President of India, invite the following e-Tenders on prescribed form for the following works up to 15:00 hrs. on 31.01.2024. The details of the tenders are as under:-

**S. No.: 1 Tender No.:** ELG-204-2324

**Name of Work:** Electrical work in connection with "ETAH-Proposals for Existing Goods Sheds for improvement/upgradation work". Electrical work in connection with "Prayagraj Chheoki Improvement / upgradation work in existing goods shed". Electrical work in connection with "CPC- Proposals for Existing Goods Sheds for improvement/upgradation work".

**Cost of Work (In Rs.):** 29644605.10 | **Bid Security (In Rs.):** 298200.00

**Duration of completion:** 06 Months, **Tender Opening Date:** 31.01.2024, 15:00 Hrs. **Note:** 1. The complete information along with tender document of above e-Tender is available on Website [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) upto 15:00 hrs. on the due date of tender opening. 2130/23(P)

North central railways @ [www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in](http://www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in) @ [northcentralrailway.in](https://northcentralrailway.in) @ [cprnrcr.in](https://cprnrcr.in)

**UJVN LIMITED**

H.O.: "UJWAL", Maharani Bagh, GMS Road, Dehradun-248006  
Telephone: 0135-2763809, Fax: 0135-2763508  
CIN No. U40101UR2001SG025866 Website: [www.ujvn.com](http://www.ujvn.com)

पत्र सं. 01 e-Tender Notice दिनांक: 01.01.2024

**Office of the Executive Engineer (Civil), MB-II, Chinyalisaur (Uttarkashi)** invites online e-bid from interested parties. Brief summary of tender is given below.

**Tender No.:** 24/EE(Civil)/MB-II/Chinyalisaur/2023-24

**Name of work:** Hill slope protection work behind Dharasu Power House of Maneri Bhali Project Stage-II at Dharasu, (Uttarkashi).

**Estimated cost:-** Rs. 1,82,84,459.34 (excluding GST)

**Date of availability of bid document on:** 02.01.2024 from 5:00 PM website

**Last Date for submission of Tender :** 25.01.2024 upto 05:00 PM

**For fuller & further details, kindly visit our e-Procurement portal <http://uktenders.gov.in>**

Executive Engineer (Civil), MB-II, Chinyalisaur

**"AVOID WASTEFUL USE OF ELECTRICITY"**

**PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON**

**See Section 82 Cr.P.C.**

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person namely **Sh. Atul Kushwaha** proprietor of **M/s Ganpati Enterprises, Both at** Shop No. 26/58, DDA Market, Triolkpuri, Delhi, has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case **Case Reg. No. 4567/2018, U/s 138 N.I. Act** registered at P.S. South Rohini, Delhi and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest there upon issued that the said **Sh. Atul Kushwaha** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said **Sh. Atul Kushwaha** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said **Sh. Atul Kushwaha** accused of **Case Reg. No. 4567/2018, U/s 138 N.I. Act** P.S. South Rohini, Delhi is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on or before **23.02.2024**

By Order  
**Ms. Deepali Shrivastava,**  
Metropolitan Magistrate,  
North West, Room No. 107, 1st Floor  
Rohini Courts, Delhi

DP/15201/RD/2023

**APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION**

General public is hereby informed that an unidentified male (depicted in the photo) name **Unknown**, residence and family is **Unknown** age **40-45 years** approx. was found dead at **Tagore Road, Near Public Toilet, Delhi** on **30.12.2023**. In this regard a FIR No./DD No. **590/23, U/s 279/304A IPC**, Dated **30.12.2023** has been lodged at **PS Kamla Market, New Delhi**. The dead body was preserved for 72 Hrs in Maulana Azard Medical College Mortuary. His physical description is as under:-

Sex: Male, Age: 40-45 years approx., Height: 5' 2", Complexion: Shallow, Face: Long, Build: Medium, Hair: Small black beard mustache, Wearing: Black colour Sweater & Shirt with white fabric, blue colour Lower & black colour underwear and black slippers in feet. Any person having any information or clue about the deceased may kindly inform to the undersigned on the following address or telephone numbers:-

SHO  
Website: <http://cbi.nic.in> PS: Kamla Market, Delhi  
E-mail: [cic@cbi.gov.in](mailto:cic@cbi.gov.in) Ph.: 011-22230623, 23233743  
Tel. No.: 011-23014046, 23015218 Mob.: 8750870424  
Fax No.: 011-230111334 DP/13/CD/2024

**PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON**

**(SEE SECTION 82 Cr.P.C.)**

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person(s) **Karanjeet @ Kalu S/o Pinku R/o H.No. 382, Transit Camp, Raghurib Nagar, Delhi** has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in FIR No. **1957/2015 U/s 324/34 IPC, PS Rajauri Garden, West Distt., Delhi** and it has been returned to a Warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused person(s) **Karanjeet @ Kalu** can not be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused person(s) **Karanjeet @ Kalu** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused person(s) **Karanjeet @ Kalu** of FIR No. **1957/2015 U/s 324/34 IPC, PS Rajauri Garden, West Distt., Delhi** is required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before dated **02.02.2024**.

By Order  
**Ms. Neetika Kapoor**  
Metropolitan Magistrate-2 (West)  
Room No. 356  
Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi

DP/15102/WD/2023  
(Court Matter)

**PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON**

**See Section 82 Cr.P.C.**

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused **Raju @ Sanjay S/o Ram Prashad R/o 559, Gali No. 5, Shalimar Bagh, Delhi** has committed the offence FIR No. **505/2017 u/s 379/411 IPC P.S. Mahender Park, New Delhi** & a warrant of arrest issued have been returned stating thereupon that the said **Raju @ Sanjay** cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said **Raju @ Sanjay** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said **Raju @ Sanjay** accused of FIR No. **505/2017 u/s 379/411 IPC P.S. Mahender Park, New Delhi** is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on **27.02.2024**.

By Order: **Ms. Neeti Suri Mishra**  
Addl. Chief Metropolitan Magistrate-North Distt.  
Room No. 117, Rohini Court, Delhi

DP/14355/NW/23

**POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION OF UTTARAKHAND LTD.**  
(A Govt. of Uttarakhand Enterprise)  
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER (OPERATION & MAINTENANCE), GARHWAL ZONE, 26-CIVIL LINES, ROORKEE

**E-TENDER NOTICE**

Power Transmission Corporation of Uttarakhand Ltd. invites e-tender for "Providing, Fixing and Installation of Electric fencing around 220 KV Switchyard & 132/73 KV IDPL Switchyard under 220 KV (O&M) Division, Rishikesh" against-tender specification **No.CE/GZR-20/2023-24**. Last date of submission of online/offline e-tender is **02.02.2024** upto 15.00 hrs which shall be opened on **03.02.2024** at 15.00hrs. Details of E-tender can be obtained from E-tender website [www.uktenders.gov.in](http://www.uktenders.gov.in) and information of E-tender can be seen from PTCUL website [www.ptcul.org](http://www.ptcul.org). For any assistance on e-tendering, please contact on Mb.No.+91-8899899000.

**CHIEF ENGINEER (O&M)**  
Dated: 02/01/2024  
"SAVE ELECTRICITY IN THE INTEREST OF NATION"

**कार्यालय छवनी परिषद्, चक्राता**

जिला देहरादून, उत्तराखण्ड फोन : 01360-272220  
फैक्स : 01360-272502 ई-मेल : [ceochak-stats@nic.in](mailto:ceochak-stats@nic.in)

फाइल संख्या - 6/6/Contract/Misc. Staff/2024 दिनांक : 01.01.2024

**छावनी परिषद् चक्राता देहरादून-248123, दूरभाष क्रमांक - 01360-272220** छावनी परिषद् चक्राता द्वारा GEM (भारत सरकार ई-बाजार) पोर्टल पर ऑनलाइन निविदा "छावनी परिषद् चक्राता को आउटसोर्स आधार पर एमटीएस और अन्य विविध कर्मचारियों की आपूर्ति हेतु" GEM (भारत सरकार ई-बाजार निविदा क्रमांक GEM/2024/B/4420686) Bid No. GEM/2024/B/4420686 पर निविदाएं आमंत्रित की जाती हैं।

अधिक जानकारी और ऑनलाइन निविदा, विवरण और शुद्धिपत्र जमा करने के लिए कृपया <https://gem.gov.in> पर जाएं। जमा करना, शुद्धिपत्र और अनुबंध देने जैसी सभी गतिविधियां जेम पोर्टल यानि <https://gem.gov.in> के माध्यम से की जाएंगी।

मुख्य अधिशासी अधिकारी  
चक्राता छावनी

"बेटी बचाओ, बेटी पढ़ाओ" "एक भारत श्रेष्ठ भारत"

**NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY**

**E-TENDERING TENDER NOTICE**

Divisional Railway Manager (Works) N.C. Railway, Jhansi for and behalf of President of India invites sealed "Open Tender" through on Line (E-Tendering) for the following work.

**E-Tender No.:** JHS-ENGG-N-2023-182 | **Approx. Cost:** ₹ 24583175.58

**Description of Work:** TSR/P work between Jhansi-Dhaulpur section from Km 1183.300 to Km 1202.000 (18.700 Km) on DN Road with the use of Contractor's own PQRS, Gantry, labour force and other tools & plants.

**Earnest Money:** ₹ 272900.00 | **Date of Closing Tender:** 22.01.2024 at 15:00 hrs.

**Date of completion / period from issue acceptance letter:** 08 Months

**Note:-** (1) Tender on line can be submitted up to 15:00 hrs. on 22.01.2024. (2) For full details and submission of bid please see the Indian Railways website [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in). 03/24(A)

North central railways @ [www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in](http://www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in) @ [northcentralrailway.in](https://northcentralrailway.in) @ [cprnrcr.in](https://cprnrcr.in)

**OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER PROJECT, PUBLIC HEALTH ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT, JODHPUR**  
Tel. 0291-2651700 E-mail : [rj\\_cjeod@nic.in](mailto:rj_cjeod@nic.in)

**No. CE(P)/ PHED/Ju / 23 -24/ 4913-4956 Date: 6-12-2023**

**Notice Inviting Bid (NIB No. 27/2023-24)**

Bid for Execution of Balance works related to "Coverage of 54 villages by providing Functional house Hold Tap connection(FHTC) via RWSS Peeewa- Sadri-Jambeshwarwargar Scheme of block Lohawat and Dechu of District Jodhpur" viz. RCC OHSSs, P/LJ of Pumping mains, Cluster distribution system, Village distribution system, Construction of Boundary wall, and civil, mechanical, electrical & instrumentation works, including Geo-tagging complete job as per scope & specifications on Single Point Responsibility Basis Turnkey Lump sum contract including necessary Design and Operation & maintenance for 10 years (upto VTC) after 1 year defect liability period on the Risk & Cost under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) is invited from interested bidder up to 18:00 hrs, 02/01/2024. Other particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal (<http://eproc.rajjasthan.gov.in>, <http://sppg.raj.nic.in>) of the state; and <http://dipr.rajjasthan.gov.in> and <http://phedwater.rajjasthan.gov.in>.

UBN : PHE2324WLOB10166  
DIPR/C/15980/2023

Sd/-  
Chief Engineer Project  
PHED Jodhpur

**PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON**

**(SECTION 82 Cr.P.C.)**

Whereas complaint has been made before me that the accused, **Rohit @ Lal Bahadur**, S/o Damodar Ram, R/o (1) 990, Veer Singh House, Village Rithala, Delhi, (2) Bidhupur, PS Bidhupur, District Vaishali, Patna, Bihar, (3) 908, Veer Singh Gard, Rithala, Avantika, Sector 7, Rohini, Delhi, (4) 990, Gali no. 5, Rithala, Delhi, has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case **FIR. no. 1285/2016, U/s 323/509 IPC and 8 PCOSO Act**, registered at **P.S. Vijay Vihar, Delhi**, and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest there upon issued that the said accused **Rohit @ Lal Bahadur**, cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused **Rohit @ Lal Bahadur**, has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused **Rohit @ Lal Bahadur**, of case **FIR. no. 1285/2016, U/s 323/509 IPC and 8 PCOSO Act**, **P.S. Vijay Vihar, Delhi**, is required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before **12.02.2024**.

By order  
**Pooja Aggarwal,**  
A. S. J., FTSC, PCOSO,  
Court no. 318,  
Rohini Court, Delhi

DP/15035/RD/2023  
(Court Matter)

**UNIDENTIFIED DEAD BODY**

General Public is hereby informed that one person **Namely: Unknown, S/o: Unknown, Address: Unknown** was found dead at Footpath, Katra Lehsuan Market, Chandni Chowk, Delhi on **31.12.2023** in the area of P.S. Kotwali, Delhi. In this regard a case has been lodged vide **DD No. 27A, dated 31.12.2023** at P.S. Kotwali, Delhi. The description of the dead person is as under:- **Age:** About 60-65 years, **Sex:** Male, **Height:** 5'9", **Complexion:** Fair, **Wearing:** Black colour jacket and grey colour pant. If any one having any information about this dead person please inform undersigned.

SHO  
**P.S. Kotwali, Delhi**

DP/37/N/2024 Ph.: 011-23977100, 8750870121

**U.P.RAJYA VIDYUT UTPADAN NIGAM LTD HARDUAGANJ THERMAL POWER STATION, KASIMPUR (ALIGARH)**

**E-Tender Notice**

**SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, ELECTRICITY CIVIL MAINTENANCE CIRCLE, Kasimpur**

1. E-Tender No. 08/ECMD/ECMD-II/HTPS/2023-24, Online e-bids are invited for the "Work of M&R of Motor /Starter and Pumps as well as round O'clock operation of Tube wells at New Colony in Harduaganj Thermal Power Station, UPRVUNL, Kasimpur, Aligarh, UTTAR PRADESH". E-Tender has been uploaded on 30.12.2023 on <http://etender.up.nic.in>, Estimated cost: Rs. 27,97,070.00 (GST Extra), Time Period: 24 months, Earnest money: Rs. 56,000.00, Last date of E-bid Submission: 22.01.2024 (14:00 hrs.)

**Note-** Total quantity of work, tender specification and other terms & condition is as per tender documents available on the e-portal. Corrigendum, Addendum, Extension if any shall be uploaded only on the above website. Bidders are advised to visit the website regularly for updated information from time to time. Part-I shall contain Tender Cost/Earnest money and other necessary documents as per pre-qualifying conditions and Part -II will contain price bid as per bill of quantity. Tender specification may be downloaded from the website (<http://etender.up.nic.in>) and other specification details can be seen on Nigam website [www.uprvunl.org](http://www.uprvunl.org). The contractors have to submit the hard copy before the schedule date/time in the concern office in sealed envelope containing details of the tender mentioned on the envelope. Tenders are advised to send their hard copy directly to the concerned tendering authority of the Circles/Division. Who reserve the right to unaccept/cancel any or all the tenders without assigning any reason there of. **Superintending Engineer (H.Q.)** पत्रांक : 53 /अधीनस्थ(गु) / विज्ञापन / कैम-1(न) / 23 दिनांक 01.01.2024

"Save Electricity Enhance National Productivity"

**Project Management Unit**  
**Jai Marg Vikas Project**

**INLAND WATERWAYS AUTHORITY OF INDIA**  
(Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, Govt. of India)

**Head Office:** A-13, Sector -1, Noida - 201 301. Phone: 0120-2544004, Fax: 0120-2543976 [vc.iwai@nic.in](mailto:vc.iwai@nic.in)

**Notice Inviting Tender-ICB**  
Ref : IWA/IVB/NW-1/CSB/2023

**Procurement of Dredgers For Capacity Augmentation of National Waterway-1**

Inland Waterways Authority of India(IWA) a statutory Body under the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, Government of India. Invites e-Bids from reputed eligible firms for "Procurement of Dredgers for Capacity Augmentation of National Waterway-1 (river Ganga)". Last date for submission of e-bids is up to 1500 hrs (IST) on 16.02.2024. For details and further updates please visit IWA website [www.iwai.nic.in](http://www.iwai.nic.in) and e-procurement site <https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app>

Date: 02.01.2024 Vice Chairman & Project Director (JMWV)

**ICAR-NRCO, PAKYONG, SIKKIM**  
F.No. NRC(O)/ADMN/27-B/2023-24/218 Dated: 20/12/2023

**NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER**

The Director, ICAR - National Research Centre for Orchids, Pakyong, Sikkim invites online open tenders under two bid system(Technical Bid & Financial Bid) through GeM as detailed below:

Sl.No.	Name of Items	GeM Bid No.	Bid end date/ time
1.	Manpower Outsourcing Services	GeM/2023/B/4357132	16-01-2024 / 15.00

Dated: 18-12-2023

For more details Interested Bidders may visit - GeM portal <https://gem.gov.in> or NRCC website: <https://nrco.icar.gov.in>.

Sd/-  
**Arvind Chauhaan**  
Assistant Administrative Officer

**Government of Punjab**  
(Department of Health & Family Welfare, Punjab)

**SHORT TERM E-tender**

**Bid Ref. No. :- e tender PHSC/Proc./Medical Kits /2023-24/117.**

The Punjab Health Systems Corporation, Mohali (Department of Health & Family Welfare, Punjab) invites online bids ([www.sproc.punjab.gov.in](http://www.sproc.punjab.gov.in)) for the procurement of "27,500 Medical Election Kits/Composi Kits for Lok Sabha Election 2024". list is enumerated in the tender document available on the website <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in>:-

Date, time and place of Pre-bid conference.	9.01.2024 at 11.30 a.m. in the Room no. 3 of Punjab Health Systems Corporation, Punjab School Education Building, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor, Block E S.A.S. Nagar - Mohali-160062. Phone no. 0172-2232245, 2232247.
Closing date & time.	18.01.2024 till 4.30 p.m.

For details log onto :- <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in>.

**Note :-** Any Corrigendum(s) to the tender notice shall be published on the above website only and shall be considered as valid notice to all interested bidders. No separate communication shall be given.

Sd/-  
**MANAGING DIRECTOR**

DPR/Ph./12/31/2023/31094

**Kalyan Singh Super Specialty Cancer Institute**  
C.G. City, Sultanpur Road, Lucknow-226002  
(An Autonomous Institute of the Govt. of Uttar Pradesh)  
Website: <https://cancerinstitute.edu.in> Email: [office.sscii@gmail.com](mailto:office.sscii@gmail.com)

**Custom GeM Bid Notice**

It is hereby informed that a Custom GeM bid No. GEM/2023/B/4410340 dated 01.01.2024 has been uploaded on GeM Portal for Procurement of Custom Bid for Services— CAMC of UPS and INVERTERS for KSSSCI. All interested service providers/bidders are required to submit their bids on GeM Portal in accordance with the terms and conditions of the GeM bid documents. The Director reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids at any stage without assigning any reason thereof.

**Note:** 1. EMD Submitted for the previous bid through RTGS/NEFT will be accepted and held valid for this Bid However, UTR No. 1 and scanned copy must be uploaded with this GeM bid.

2. In case of Re-bids, the affidavits submitted in the previous bids (with the same terms and conditions) will also be accepted.

3. A pre Bid meeting will be conducted on Zoom Platform on 12.01.2024 at 14:00 hrs, all interested bidders are requested to forward their email ids on above mail for forwarding the Zoom link.

The Tender documents are available on the website of the Institute [www.cancerinstitutes.edu.in](http://www.cancerinstitutes.edu.in)

**Advt No. : KSSSCI/PRO-37/2023-24** **Director**

**UNIDENTIFIED DEAD BODY**

General Public is hereby informed that one vagabond male person was found an road accident in the area of police station Hari Nagar, Delhi dated 29.12.2023. He was admitted in DDU Hospital Vide MLC No. 11180/23. During the treatment declared dead by doctor. In this regard a **FIR No. 483/2023 u/s 279/304 IPC dated 29.12.2023** has been registered at **P.S. Hari Nagar, Delhi**. The dead body has been preserved for identification at DDU Hospital Mortuary, Delhi for 72 hrs. The description of the dead body is given as under **Name:** Unknown, **S/o:** Unknown, **R/o:** Unknown, **Age:** 65 years, **Height:** 5'7", **Complexion:** Wheatish, **Build:** Thin, **Wearing:** Black colour Shirt and Black colour Pant. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the dead person but no clue has come to light so far. If any one having any information about this dead person please inform undersigned.

SHO  
**P.S. Hari Nagar, Delhi**  
Ph. : 8750871128, 9868595795

DP/32/WD/2024

**Electricity Distribution Circle**  
**Uttarakhand Power Corporation Ltd.**  
Hydel Colony Ranikhet: 263645  
Distt: Almora  
E-mail: [dgmrkt\\_upcl@yahoo.com](mailto:dgmrkt_upcl@yahoo.com)  
Ph: (05966), 220620

**विद्युत वितरण मण्डल**  
उत्तराखण्ड पावर कारपोरेशन लिमिटेड  
हाईडल कॉलोनी रानीखेत: 263645  
(विओ-अल्मोड़ा, उत्तराखण्ड)  
दूरभाष: (05966), 220620

**ई-निविदा सूचना**

विद्युत वितरण मण्डल रानीखेत निम्न ई-निविदा आमंत्रित करता है। :-

क्र० सं०	ई-निविदा संख्या	कार्य का नाम	ई-निविदा क्रय/जमा करने की ऑनलाइन/ऑफलाइन तिथि एवं समय	ई-निविदा (भाग-1) खुलने की ऑनलाइन/ऑफलाइन तिथि एवं समय
1	विओविओम (रा०) 40/ 2023-24	विओविओम, अल्मोड़ा के अधीन उपखण्ड-प्रथम अल्मोड़ा के अन्तर्गत उपभोक्ताओं की मोबाइल एप के माध्यम से मीटर रीडिंग एवं बिल वितरण सम्बन्धी कार्य।	24.01.2024 15:00 बजे तक	25.01.2024 12:00 बजे
2	विओविओम (रा०) 41/ 2023-24	विओविओम, अल्मोड़ा के अधीन उपखण्ड-द्वितीय अल्मोड़ा के अन्तर्गत उपभोक्ताओं की मोबाइल एप के माध्यम से मीटर रीडिंग एवं बिल वितरण सम्बन्धी कार्य।	24.01.2024 15:00 बजे तक	25.01.2024 12:00 बजे
3	विओविओम (रा०) 42/ 2023-24	विओविओम, बागेश्वर के अधीन उपखण्ड-प्रथम बागेश्वर के अन्तर्गत उपभोक्ताओं की मोबाइल एप के माध्यम से मीटर रीडिंग एवं बिल वितरण सम्बन्धी कार्य।	24.01.2024 15:00 बजे तक	25.01.2024 12:00 बजे
4	विओविओम (रा०) 43/ 2023-24	विओविओम, बागेश्वर के अधीन उपखण्ड-द्वितीय बागेश्वर के अन्तर्गत उपभोक्ताओं की मोबाइल एप के माध्यम से मीटर रीडिंग एवं बिल वितरण सम्बन्धी कार्य।	24.01.2024 15:00 बजे तक	25.01.2024 12:00 बजे
5	विओविओम (रा०) 44/ 2023-24	विओविओम, रानीखेत के अधीन उपखण्ड-प्रथम रानीखेत के अन्तर्गत उपभोक्ताओं की मोबाइल एप के माध्यम से मीटर रीडिंग एवं बिल वितरण सम्बन्धी कार्य।	24.01.2024 15:00 बजे तक	25.01.2024 12:00 बजे
6	विओविओम (रा०) 45/ 2023-24	विओविओम, रानीखेत के अधीन उपखण्ड-द्वितीय रानीखेत के अन्तर्गत उपभोक्ताओं की मोबाइल एप के माध्यम से मीटर रीडिंग एवं बिल वितरण सम्बन्धी कार्य।	24.01.2024 15:00 बजे तक	25.01.2024 12:00 बजे
7	विओविओम (रा०) 46/ 2023-24	विओविओम, भिकियासैण के अधीन उपखण्ड-प्रथम भिकियासैण के अन्तर्गत उपभोक्ताओं की मोबाइल एप के माध्यम से मीटर रीडिंग एवं बिल वितरण सम्बन्धी कार्य।	24.01.2024 15:00 बजे तक	25.01.2024 12:00 बजे
8	विओविओम (रा०) 47/ 2023-24	विओविओम, भिकियासैण के अधीन उपखण्ड-द्वितीय भिकियासैण के अन्तर्गत उपभोक्ताओं की मोबाइल एप के माध्यम से मीटर रीडिंग एवं बिल वितरण सम्बन्धी कार्य।	24.01.2024 15:00 बजे तक	25.01.2024 12:00 बजे

उक्त ई-निविदाओं की अन्य नियम व एवं शर्तें वेबसाइट [www.uktenders.gov.in](http://www.uktenders.gov.in) पर देखी जा सकती हैं। ई-निविदा की ऑफलाइन तकनीकी विड (भाग-1) कार्यालय में जमा करने की अंतिम तिथि 24.01.2024 (15:00 बजे) है।

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F.No. NRC(O)/S/16/2023-24/223 Dated: 21/12/2023

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Sl.No.	Name of Items	GeM Bid No.	Bid end date/ time
1.	Rigid GI Pipe (BHEL)	GeM/2023/B/4312400	19-01-2024 / 15:00
2.	G.I Square Pipe, Pati, Profile Chatter/Chadar, Cutting blade, PVC Pipe, End Cap	GeM/2023/B/4372402	20-01-2024 / 16:00

Dated: 20-12-2023

For more details Interested Bidders may visit - GeM portal <https://gem.gov.in> or NRCC website: <https://nrco.icar.gov.in>.

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Assistant Administrative Officer

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Closing date for challan generation for fee deposit	24.01.2024
Last date of deposit of application fee in the Bank	29.01.2024
Last date for receipt of hard copy of application in the office of the Administrative Officer (Recruitment Cell), PGIMER, Sector-12, Chandigarh	05.02.2024
160012	Til 04.00 PM

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# Cos must tap human intelligence to gain edge in AI wave

By Achal Khanna

The world of work has seen an unprecedented change, and technology has been at the forefront of this change. The pace of digital transformation combined with new age talent configuration have been shaping up the workplace needs of the future. In 2024, we will continue to see many of these changes becoming a norm because of large scale adoption by digital nati-

ves and organisational policies. The impact of automation, AI, machine learning and Gen AI will be seen more than ever as the rate of adoption accelerates. Here are some trends to watch out for in 2024:

**Appification will see amplification:** AI and automation will see large scale integration into several aspects of workforce management for



a unified experience. With apps for every operational event, continuous churning of data for drawing actionable talent insights periodically at shorter frequency will be explored across the talent life cycle.

**Rise of hybrid work, gig economy:** Organisations will continue to show flexibility in accommodating di-

verse work, workers & workplace preferences. We will see a prominent borderless talent economy exchanging multitude of opportunities, especially for critical talent & skills. The gig economy will flourish with organisations leveraging contractual and specialised talent for specialised projects. Employees will be seen opting for hybrid working arrangements.

**Increased focus on holistic**

**well-being:** Spheres such as personal, mental, financial, and emotional well-being, among others, will attract more attention. Digital detoxification — scheduling breaks to declutter from the overdose of technology — and the integration of AI within wellness initiatives, from offering personalised recommendations for diets to suggestions for exercise, by churning and analysing individual data are two

trends that will stand out in the new year. Establishing tech-free zones and encouraging tech-free retreats will be encouraged.

**Employee experience:** The voice of employees will be integral in shaping policies that promote a culture that values diversity and inclusion. While assimilation of AI for measuring experience is going to be widely observed, according to the Qualtrics' Employ-

ee Experience Report, employees will be seen being more open and collaborative with the types of AI that they can control vis-a-vis the ones being deployed for their evaluation.

**Gen AI:** The future of work will see explosion of unprecedented proportions of gen AI applications. Both employees and organisations are receptive yet anxious of the extent to which gen AI can displace current

job roles and create future ones. Marrying human intelligence, creativity and innovation with AI will be the key for sustenance in an AI-enabled world.

The future is going to be exciting for HR practitioners who will see a shift in priorities, not just limited to acquiring new age skills but also overseeing large scale adoption of gen AI across employee life cycle. (The writer is CEO of SHRM India, APAC & MENA)

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Advertisement No.: ISP/RECT/DR/2023/01 Date: 29/12/2023

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Electrician	12	3	3	1	3	2	1	-	2	12	
Turner	3	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	3		
EOT Crane Operator	9	2	2	1	2	2	-	-	1	9	
Welder	5	3	1	-	1	-	-	-	5		
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		UR	SC	ST	OBC	EWS					
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**Important Dates:**

Start of on-line application	Last date for on-line application
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Advt No. 23-24/Personnel/14

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Details about the Walk-in date and process, eligibility criteria, application process, \*experience, emoluments etc. can be viewed in our website - [www.nrl.co.in](http://www.nrl.co.in) (CAREER SECTION). It is advised to regularly visit our Career Section for updates.

Advertisement no: 01/2024 General Manager (HR)-Corporate

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**Baba Ghulam Shah Badshah University, Rajouri, (J&K)**  
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Call for nominations/applications for selection of Vice Chancellor, Baba Ghulam Shah Badshah University

Baba Ghulam Shah Badshah University (BGSBU) is established by Act No. XVI of 2002 of the Government of Jammu & Kashmir. The "Search Committee" constituted by the Hon'ble Chancellor of the University is seeking applications / nominations for the position of Vice Chancellor, BGSBU with an intent to widen the search process.

- The Committee set up for the selection of the Vice Chancellor of the University seeks nominations/ applications with an intent to widen the search process as per UGC Regulations on Minimum Qualifications for Appointment of Teachers and Other Academic Staff in Universities and Colleges and Measures for the Maintenance of Standards in Higher Education, 2018 and University Statutes.
- The Vice Chancellor, being the academic as well as administrative head, is expected to:
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  - be a visionary with proven leadership qualities and reputed academician with proven administrative acumen and ability.
  - have an outstanding academic record throughout and a minimum of 10 years' experience as a Professor in a Government University / IISc/IITs/IITs/NTs and similar institutions or 10 years' of experience in an equivalent position in a reputed research and / or academic administrative organization with proof of having demonstrated academic leadership.
  - have a proven academic and administrative record.
- The Vice Chancellor shall not be more than 65 years of age as on closing date of receipt of applications of this advertisement.
- Salary and Service Conditions:**
  - The post carries a pay of Rs. 2,10,000/- (Fixed) per month with other usual allowances as admissible or as determined by the Chancellor of the University.
  - The terms and conditions of the appointment shall be as prescribed in the Act, Statutes and Regulations of the University.
- Nomination should preferably be made by any present or former Vice Chancellor of State University including Technical University or Central University, Director and/or Chairman of Board of Governors of IISc/IITs/IITs/NTs and similar Institutions, Presidents of National Academies of Science/Engineering, Secretary to Government of India or equivalent officers. Consent from the nominated candidate for the nomination may be attached by the nominating person.
- The Advertisement/ Nomination Form/ Link for submission of online Application form are available on the website : <https://bgsbuvrecruitment.smvdu.ac.in>
- The hard copy of the online Application form along with supportive documents, names of three references with full contact details (address, telephone number, e-mail etc.), a brief write up on Vision for the BGSBU University for 5 years to be sent to Registrar, SMVDU (on behalf of Search Committee), Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University, P.O. Kakryal, Katra-182320, J&K, so as to reach latest by 30<sup>th</sup> January 2024.
- Nominations can be forwarded electronically to e-mail : [vrcrecruitment@smvdu.ac.in](mailto:vrcrecruitment@smvdu.ac.in) and / or by registered post in an envelope clearly marked, "Nomination for Vice Chancellor's position".
- The in-service candidates must furnish NOC and Vigilance Clearance certificate along with application form.
- For any query/information, kindly contact Helpdesk email : [vrcrecruitment@smvdu.ac.in](mailto:vrcrecruitment@smvdu.ac.in)

No. BGSBU/2024/Camp/01  
Date : 01-01-2024

Sd/-  
Registrar, SMVDU

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Ref No. CSLSP&A/RECT/COMSRU PERMA/Vacancy Notification\_Officers/2023/2 03.01.2024

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2	Deputy Manager (Weapons)	1	
3	Deputy Manager (Administration)	1	MBA / PG Degree / PG Diploma with minimum 60% and Seven years relevant post qualification managerial experience.
<b>Total</b>		<b>3</b>	

For more details on age, reservation, educational qualification, experience, remuneration etc., please read the vacancy notification on CSL website [www.cochinshipyards.in](http://www.cochinshipyards.in) (Career page->CMSRU, Mumbai). Last date of receipt of online application is 31 January 2024.

"Hindi version of detailed advertisement is published on the website [www.cochinshipyards.in](http://www.cochinshipyards.in) of CSL."

Sd/-  
GENERAL MANAGER (HR & TRAINING)



# Militants fire grenades at patrol party in Manipur, five wounded

## CM Alleges Role Of 'Foreign Mercenaries'

Prabin.Kalita@timesgroup.com

**Guwahati:** Four police commandos and a BSF trooper were wounded on Tuesday when militants suspected to be from a Myanmar-based outfit fired rocket-propelled grenades at a joint patrol in the border town of Moreh in Manipur's Tengenoupal district, making this the fourth consecutive day of violence in the state.

Chief minister N Biren Singh accused "foreign mercenaries" of trying to stoke a conflict that was dying out, identifying the perpetrators as being possibly from the Kuki National Army, Burma (KNA-B). "Multiple sources have told us this," he said. The five wounded men were airlifted to Imphal and hospitalised at the Regional Institute of Medical Sciences. They are Maibam Thoiba, Chabungbam Herojit, Kamei Gaohehlung, Mangsatabam Premkumar and Rabindra Singh.

Four other police commandos survived a similar attack in Moreh with multiple injuries early Sunday. In the Imphal valley, two village guards were killed in separate attacks during the weekend.

On Monday evening, assailants masquerading as



As Manipur witnessed fourth consecutive day of violence, Manipur CM N Biren Singh on Tuesday met the family members of those who died in Monday's violence in the Lilong area of Thoubal district

cops shot and killed four civilians and left six others critically wounded at a marketplace in Thoubal district. The victims were identified as Md Daulat, M Sirajuddin, Md Azad Khan and Md Hussain. The banned Revolutionary People's Front, the political wing of the People's Liberation Army (PLA) of Manipur, owned up to the killings on Tuesday, saying its cadre were trying to "capture a drug lord from Lilong Chingjao" when some people stopped them and tried to snatch their weapons. The militants fired in retaliation, resulting in the deaths.

Police held an interfaith meeting to ease tension in the area while CM Biren Singh visited the families of the deceased.

Although all the killings have been in the valley, the

government is treating Moreh on the India-Myanmar border as the current epicentre of unrest. Since Saturday, three militant attacks have left 10 security personnel injured, starting with an ambush in which a commando suffered splinter injuries. Biren Singh said state and central forces were up against militants armed with sophisticated weapons and out to ensure that the state remains restive. The state government is keeping the Centre informed about every step being taken to restore peace.

The chief minister's statement coincided with reports of a gunfight in the Chavangphai area of Moreh after two people were picked up for allegedly being involved in an attack on police personnel the day before.

## Missing teens case: CBI files chargesheets against five

**New Delhi:** Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has filed separate chargesheets against five accused persons in two inter-related cases of Manipur violence pertaining to the disappearance and subsequent killings of two students in July.

The CBI had taken over investigation in August and their probe has revealed that the boy and the girl were intercepted and held captive by a group of men who had forcibly put the victims in a vehicle. They were taken to an undisclosed location and killed later.

The pictures of the two Manipuri students, who had gone missing on July 6, had surfaced on social media causing a furore. The photos appeared to be before and after they were killed. One of the pictures showed the two students sitting on a grassy compound while two armed men could be seen behind them. In another picture, the bodies of the two students could be seen.

"The CBI has filed two separate chargesheets in the court of chief judicial magistrate, Kamrup, Guwahati (Assam) against five accused," a CBI spokesperson said. **TNN**

## Space given to Khalistanis in Canada politics core issue: EAM

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**New Delhi:** Foreign minister S Jaishankar reiterated on Tuesday that India's core issue with Canada was the space given to Khalistani forces in Canadian politics, allowing them to indulge in activities that damage the relationship with India.

"The issue at heart is the fact that in Canadian politics, these Khalistani forces have been given a lot of space and



Jaishankar also clarified that the G20 summit in New Delhi had no relation to the Khalistani issue in Canada

have been allowed to indulge in activities which I think are damaging to the relationship, clearly not in India's interest, and not in Canada's interest either. But unfortunately, that is the state of their politics," Jaishankar said in an interview to ANI.

He also clarified that the G20 summit in New Delhi had no relation to the Khalistani issue in Canada.

"...The Khalistan issue is not new. The Khalistan issue has existed for years. I can explain my government, my PM and my book. It's not for me to speculate on other prime ministers," he added.

# Railway official who gave PM selfie booths' cost info shunted

Vijay.Pinjarkar@timesgroup.com

**Nagpur:** Seven months after taking charge, Central Railway's chief public relations officer (CPRO) Shivraj Manaspure was unexpectedly transferred on December 29, allegedly without being given a reason for it or being told where his new posting is. He had last month, in response to an RTI plea, disclosed the cost of 3D selfie booths featuring PM Modi at stations.

Manaspure has been replaced by Swapnil D Nila. Sources said Manaspure had been awarded by railway minister Ashwini Vaishnaw two weeks prior to being shunted out for efforts made to increase earnings, tackle ticketless travel and thefts during his stint as senior divisional commercial manager.

## Central Railway's chief public relations officer Shivraj Manaspure was transferred just seven months after taking charge

Railways has installed PM selfie booths at many stations. Ajay Bose, a social activist from Amravati, had filed an RTI plea with five zones — CR, Western, Southern, Northern, and North Western Railway — seeking information on the amount spent on erecting these booths. He received replies from railway divisions on 187 booths, of which over 100 are in Northern Railway's jurisdiction.

Barring CR, none of the divisions responded to the specific query on the cost in-

curred on erecting temporary and permanent booths. Information received from CR showed that temporary selfie booths were installed at 30 stations and permanent ones at 20 stations across Mumbai, Nagpur, Pune, Bhusawal and Solapur divisions. CR said each permanent booth cost Rs 6.25 lakh (excluding taxes) at category C stations, and every temporary booth at category A stations cost Rs 1.25 lakh. The costs were approved by the Central Bureau of Communication.

"The information from CR was supplied by deputy GM Abhay Mishra, but the CPRO has been shunted out," said Bose. Nila denied that Manaspure's transfer was linked to the RTI reply. Officials refused to comment, terming it "a top-level decision".

# Who should take care of special children after they turn 18: SC

Dhananjay.Mahapatra@timesgroup.com

**New Delhi:** The Supreme Court on Tuesday noticed leg-

islative silence on who should take care of children with special needs after they become 18-year-olds — a time triggered event that disorients them from residing in state-run childcare homes and sought the Union government's response to a PIL seeking life-

long governmental care for this category of persons.

Appearing by petitioner and veteran journalist K S R Menon, advocate Abir Phukan told a bench of CJI D Y Chandrachud, Justices J B Pardiwala and Manoj Misra that though the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015, mandated the state to look after children who have no one to support them till the age of 18 years, there

is no provision relating to such children with special needs after they turn 18.

Menon in his petition said, "Without provisions for such after-care, that is care that is given to such children needing care and protection (CNCP) after 18 years when they are discharged from children's homes or child care institutions ('CCIs') under JJ Act, their rehabilitation and integration into society will remain a distant dream."

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The portal for online application form will be available from 01/01/2024 from 12.00 noon. Last date of submission of online application form is 26/01/2024 till 5.00 pm. Last date of receipt of hard copy of duly filled application form along with self-attested supporting documents is 05/02/2024. For further details please visit the Institute website <https://www.nitgoa.ac.in/>

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**Advertisement No. 70/2023**

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Advt. No. 11/2023 Date: 20/12/2023

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This has reference to our advertisement for "ENGAGEMENT OF CONSULTANT FOR LEARNING & DEVELOPMENT ON CONTRACTUAL BASIS" dated 13/12/2023 published in [www.indianbank.in](http://www.indianbank.in). The following is amended:

**The last date of receipt of Application is extended till 09/01/2024.**

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**FOR DETAILS PLEASE CONTACT DR. MANJUNATH SOMANNAVAR**  
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# TN got 2.5x central funds from BJP govt than in UPA era: PM

## Launches Projects Worth ₹20,000 Cr In Presence Of CM Stalin

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Trichy: Tamil Nadu has received 2.5 times more central funds in the past decade from the BJP government than during the 10 years preceding 2014 when UPA was in office, PM Narendra Modi said on Tuesday while inaugurating the new integrated terminal building at Trichy international airport.

The PM, in the presence of CM MK Stalin and civil aviation minister Jyotiraditya Scindia, inaugurated and dedicated several development projects worth Rs 20,140 crore during the event.

Highlighting the financial allocations, Modi said that during the decade before 2014, states received Rs 30 lakh crore, while in the past 10 years, they were allocated Rs 120 lakh crore. His assertion comes amidst continuous complaints from the DMK government led by Stalin about inadequate funds for flood relief.

Continuing the comparison, Modi said the BJP government spent more than three times on national highway construction in Tamil



PM Modi with Tamil Nadu CM MK Stalin in Tiruchirappalli on Tuesday. Modi underscored the significance of Tamil Nadu to the central government, revealing that 40 Union ministers have toured the state over 400 times in the past year alone

Nadu and 2.5 times more on the railways in the state. "Lakhs of families in the state are getting free ration, medical treatment, and facilities like pucca houses, toilets, and piped water," he said.

Modi underscored the significance of Tamil Nadu to the central government, revealing that 40 Union ministers have toured the state over 400 times in the past year alone. Addressing the recent floods in Chennai and the

southern districts, he conveyed condolences and assured the Centre's support: "We are providing all possible help to the state government."

At a separate event at Bharathidasan University's 38th convocation in Trichy, Modi commended Indian universities for gaining global recognition and highlighted their role in India's economic growth. "India is setting records in economic growth as the fastest growing major

economy. At the same time, our universities are also entering global rankings in record numbers," he said.

Encouraging graduates to contribute to society, he envisioned a developed India by 2047 and drew parallels between ancient Tamil Sangams and contemporary convocations, noting the historical significance of places like Madurai and Kancheepuram as centres of learning.

"Society as a whole, including the poorest of the poor, played a role in bringing you to this important day," he said. "Every graduate here can help contribute to creating a developed India by 2047," he said.

CM Stalin thanked Modi for the new terminal and presented additional requests, including the elevation of Madurai airport to an international airport and the introduction of flight services to Penang and Tokyo from Chennai.

Union minister Scindia projected India to secure the third position in civil aviation within the next five years, attributing it to the Centre's concerted efforts.

## Notification on criminal justice laws' rollout likely by Jan 26

Bharti.Jain@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: The date from which the three criminal justice laws — Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS) and Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam (BSA) — will come into force is likely to be notified before January 26, a senior government functionary said on Tuesday.

The full rollout of the three laws — involving updating the criminal justice infrastructure, software, training of human resources and complete computerisation of courts — is expected within a year, with most states on board regarding time-bound implementation of the new criminal justice system.

TOI had earlier reported that the date of enforcement of the three laws may be 3-4 months ahead. Once the laws come into force, all FIRs will be registered as per sections of the BNS. Law books have already been published on the new laws and are available for study by lawyers, police and other stakeholders.

Sources said the process of training of police, lawyers, prosecutors etc would be undertaken after January 26. The nearly 3,000 trainers are currently undergoing training by master trainers and they will be assigned across four zones to train personnel in the country's 850-odd police stations.

The judiciary is likely to have a separate training programme for its officers. Even law colleges will have to take a decision along with the education ministry on when to introduce law books with the updated criminal justice laws.

The training of all arms of the criminal justice system will ensure smooth implementation of these laws, the government functionary said.

## ED quizzes Karti for 2nd time in a month in China visa case

New Delhi: The ED on Tuesday questioned Congress MP Karti Chidambaram for the second time in less than a month in connection with a money laundering case related to alleged violation of rules in issuing visas to 260 Chinese nationals in 2011 under the UPA government.

Karti was last questioned on December 23 at the ED headquarters, with the Congress MP dismissing the session as a "routine affair" and an exercise in futility.

The Congress leader is being probed for alleged bribes of Rs 50 lakh received by one of his associates for lobbying with the Union home ministry, which was then headed by his father P Chidambaram. These entry permits were issued in 2011 in violation of rules, according to the CBI that had first filed an FIR in the case. As per the CBI FIR, it was Kartik who lobbied his father for issuing visas to the Chinese nationals engaged for the construction of a power project in Punjab.

S Bhaskaran, allegedly a close associate of Karti, was made co-accused by the CBI for allegedly receiving kickbacks from Talwandi Sabo Power Ltd, a Vedanta group company, which was setting up a power plant in Punjab with Chinese assistance. Soon after, the CBI searched Congress MP's houses in Delhi and Chennai. Later, the ED conducted its own search and seizure operations in the case. **TNN**

# Rahul, Priyanka unlikely to be invited to Ram temple event

Pankaj.Shah@timesgroup.com

Lucknow: Sonia Gandhi is the only invitee from Congress's first family to the January 22 consecration of the Ram temple in Ayodhya as siblings Rahul Gandhi and Priyanka Gandhi Vadra ostensibly do not qualify to receive invitations based on the criteria set by the Ram Mandir Teerth Kshetra Trust.

Sources said Sonia was invited by temple construction committee chairperson Nripendra Mishra in her capacity as chief of the Congress Parliamentary Party.

The trust is sending out invitations to three categories of political guests — presidents of the mainstream parties, leaders of the opposition in the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha, and those who participated in the Ram temple movement between 1984 and 1992.

The special guests for whom the trust is rolling out the red carpet include seers, industrialists, artists and sportspeople.

VHP working president Alok Kumar recently invited Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge, who is also



Priyanka Gandhi Vadra (left) and Rahul Gandhi. Sonia was invited by temple construction panel chairperson Nripendra Mishra

the leader of the opposition in the Rajya Sabha. Since the Lok Sabha hasn't had an official leader of the opposition since 2014, VHP has sent out an invitation to Congress's House leader Adhir Ranjan Chaudhary.

SP president Akhilesh Yadav and BSP chief Mayawati are to receive their invitations soon, a functionary of the trust said. BJP veterans Lal Krishna Advani and Murli Manohar Joshi have already been invited to the ceremony.

"Lord Ram is for everyone. There will be no discrimination. We have decided to ensure that the ceremony does not have political overtones," VHP national secreta-

ry general Milind Parande told TOI, pointing out that even those who "once challenged the very existence of Ram" would be welcomed.

The VHP leader's statement came days after several opposition leaders said they would not attend the consecration ceremony, accusing BJP and RSS of wielding religion as a political tool.

Parande said it was ironic that some parties, including CPI and Trinamool Congress, had refused to be part of the ceremony.

"They are the ones giving a political flavour to the event," he said. "These people should have supported the Ram Janmabhoomi movement, but they didn't. Now, they should not feel jealous if those who supported it benefit from the long-awaited Ram temple turning into a reality."

On the poster controversy in Bihar involving RJD MLA Fateh Bahadur Singh, VHP working president Alok Kumar said on Tuesday termed it "another attempt to incite communal passions in the country".

The poster refers to the Ram temple in Ayodhya as a "symbol of mental slavery".

## UP cops to take over Ayodhya Ram temple security from CRPF

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: A special task force of the Uttar Pradesh police will be fully in charge of security of the Ram temple complex coming up at Ayodhya, taking over from CRPF that has been protecting the site on the directions of the Supreme Court.

A senior government functionary said since CRPF was deployed at the Ram Janambhoomi site as per the orders of the Supreme Court following the demolition of the Babri structure in 1992 and that with January 22 set as the date for 'pran pratishtha' or consecration ceremony of the Ram Lalla idol, the UP Special Security Force (SSF) will start providing comprehensive security cover at the temple.

CRPF has been providing perimeter security at the Ramjanambhoomi site. It is expected to be deployed until the pran-pratishtha, guarding the temple complex along with PAC and SSF. However, the UP forces are by now adequately



CRPF was deployed at the Ram Janambhoomi site as per SC orders after Babri demolition

trained and equipped to handle all the security duties, including access control, frisking and perimeter security at the newly-constructed temple complex.

The CRPF had in July 2005 thwarted a terrorist strike at Ramjanambhoomi site by neutralising five terrorists.

The Supreme Court, in 2019, delivered a historic verdict settling a temple-mosque dispute that went over a century back. The court backed the construction of the Ram temple at the disputed site, and ruled that an alternative five-acre plot must be found for building a mosque.

## Facing flak, Kerala mantri retracts remarks on bishops

Kochi/Thiruvananthapuram: Under fire for his remarks on Sunday against bishops who attended the Prime Minister's Christmas programme in New Delhi, Kerala cultural affairs minister Saji Cherian said on Tuesday that he was withdrawing parts of his speech referring to "cake and wine" if they caused pain to the priests. He, however, said he stood by his political stance on the alleged silence of Church leaders on attacks on Christians in the country.

Church leaders have welcomed the minister's clarification. Archbishop and Kerala Catholic Bishops' Council (KCBC) president Cardinal Mar Baselios Cleemis, who slammed Cherian earlier in the day for his remarks, said the minister should not have made such a statement. Jacobite Church spokesperson Kuriakose Mor Theophilos also welcomed the retraction of the "indecent" remarks.

Cleemis had earlier warned that the Church would not cooperate with the government unless the minister withdrew the statement and gave an explanation. **TNN**

## KASHMIR GOES WHITE



A thick layer of snow covers peaks near Gulmarg on Tuesday. Kashmir Valley continued to reel under severe cold conditions with temperatures plunging to -5.2°C in Srinagar and -6.2°C in Pahalgam on Monday night. Gulmarg felt the chills at -4°C (3°C above normal). J&K's winter capital, Jammu, recorded a minimum of 7.7°C (0.4°C above normal), a Met official said on Tuesday

## 'Ab ki baar char sau paar': BJP sets itself LS target

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Confident of a better performance in the 2024 Lok Sabha polls, BJP has set itself a stiff target and coined a slogan, 'Teesri Baar Modi Sarkar, Ab Ki Baar Char Sau Paar' (Modi government for the third time with over 400 seats).

In the 2019 elections, BJP secured 303 seats on its own and, along with its NDA allies, had 353 seats. In the 2014 polls, BJP won 282 seats and the NDA had 336.

A party functionary said the slogan was finalised in a meeting on Tuesday chaired by party president J P Nadda and attended by senior party members including Union ministers Bhupendra Yadav and Ashwini Vaishnaw, Assam CM Himanta Biswa Sarma and general secretaries Tarun Chugh and Sunil Bansal.

In addition to the slogan, the meeting, which went on for more than two hours, focused on organisational strategies. The party also decided on conveners and co-conveners at the assembly and Lok Sabha levels.

Further intensifying its campaign efforts, the party



A BJP functionary said the slogan was finalised in a meeting chaired by party chief Nadda and attended by senior leaders

### Jagan sis Sharmila to join Cong tomorrow

After much speculation and dithering, Andhra Pradesh CM Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy's sister Y S Sharmila finally informed her party leaders and followers on Tuesday that she would merge her two-year-old outfit, YSR Telangana Party (YSRTP), with Congress, report **Sribala Vadlapatla and Gopi Dara**.

During a meeting at her office in Hyderabad, Sharmila said that she will travel to Delhi on Wednesday and meet AICC chief Mallikarjun Kharge, Sonia Gandhi and Rahul. She would formally join the party on Thursday, sources said.

Sources told **TOI** that there is a possibility of Sharmila being made AICC general secretary and she may be sent to Rajya Sabha from Karnataka.

announced that tours by prominent leaders, including PM Modi, home minister Amit Shah, defence minister Rajnath Singh and Nadda in Lok Sabha clusters would begin shortly.

Around 150 party functionaries attended the meeting, underlining BJP's concerted effort to not only retain office but also to significantly expand its parliamentary strength.

## Man upset at daughter's 4am meeting with lover kills duo

Bareilly: Upset with his daughter stepping out to meet her beau at 4am, a man hacked both of them to death with a spade and later walked into a local police station in UP's Budaun on Tuesday morning with the 'murder weapon' stained in blood and surrendered himself to the cops, reports **Kanwardeep Singh**.

SSP (Budaun), OP Singh, said, "A 19-year-old woman and her boyfriend, 20, were killed by her father and other relatives in Paroli. The accused, Mahesh (who goes by first name), then handed himself over at Bilsa police station. We've registered an FIR under IPC sections 302 (murder), 147 (rioting), 148 (rioting with dangerous weapons), 149 (guilty of offence committed in prosecution of common object) and 34 (acts done by several persons in furtherance of common intention) on the complaint of her boyfriend's kin against the woman's parents and three members of her family. The woman's parents were arrested and sent to jail."

The victims were from the same community and knew each other for two years, the SSP said, adding that the bodies were sent for autopsy.

During questioning, the woman's father told police that he suspected that his daughter was planning to elope with their neighbour's son and kept an eye on her activities.

## 13-year-old's body found, kin say youth was stalking her

Muzaffarnagar: The body of a 13-year-old girl, missing since December 20, was found in the Yamuna river under Mathura district's Sadar police station area on Tuesday morning, reports **Mohammad Dilshad**. After getting information, police reached the spot and sent the body for post-mortem examination.

The family of the dead girl has told police she had been stalked by a local youth. Her father said, "My daughter was being stalked by a youth for the past four months. We informed the police immediately after she went missing. This man had been troubling my daughter. I confronted him once, but it didn't deter him. After her disappearance, we tirelessly searched for her; only to discover her body in the Yamuna river on Tuesday morning."

SHO Sanjeev Dubey of Jamunapur police station said, "The girl was reported missing on December 22. We then constituted a team and initiated an extensive search to find her. During this period, the youth in question was detained and questioned, but no information regarding the girl's whereabouts was obtained."

"We scanned CCTV footage in which the girl was seen walking alone. We are now waiting for the postmortem report," he added.

# Ist woman IPL auctioneer hammers home art of selling sports stars

Sharmila.Ganesan@timesgroup.com

For the first time in her two-decade career, Mallika Sagar wore sneakers to work on December 19 last year. Apart from helping her fill the large shoes of British auctioneer Hugh Edmeades, the pair of kicks kept her going during her seven-hour headline-grabbing debut selling 72 male cricketers for over Rs 200 crore in a large arena in Dubai as the IPL's first woman auctioneer.

The stint came 22 years after she sold baseball memorabilia to a roomful of well-heeled Americans as the first Indian woman auctioneer at Christie's in NY. "They may have been more than a little

surprised to see a young Indian auctioneer who probably knew nothing about their collecting category," says Sagar. "They were absolutely right."

Born the youngest of four in Mumbai, Sagar—of self-confessed "limited creative genes and no aptitude for painting"—grew up visiting museums, walking around monuments and reading numerous art books, thanks to her father and grandfather's interest. In her teens, she read a novel whose protagonist was a female auctioneer. "It was a frivolous read at best, but planted a seed in my head," she says. "By the time I got to college, I was convinced that I wanted to major in art history."

She studied at Bryn Mawr

College, Philadelphia, where she developed a deep love for Moorish and Islamic architecture. She chose modern Indian art as her thesis topic when the field was relatively nascent.

The first auctioneer she watched live was Christopher Burge, Christie's lead auctioneer for years. "He was charismatic and engaging with a dry British sense of humour. Superb combination," she says.

Women auctioneers, too, dotted the art landscape in the US at the time. Keen to learn, Sagar approached a "seriously tough but superb lady" who ran the training programme at Christie's in NY. "I asked her if I could come and watch the weekly training sessions



Mallika Sagar began her career 22 years ago as the first Indian woman auctioneer at Christie's

and she said yes." A few months in, the trainer told her "to get up on the podium and give it a go," says Sagar, recalling the day she sold baseball

memorabilia in 2001. "She liked what she saw and trained me."

Being an art auctioneer may look like a glamorous job, "but it requires hard work and serious commitment," says Sagar, counting her team at Pundole's—the Ballard Estate auction house—as a blessing. Most people, she feels, don't realise that auctioneering thrives on a cocktail of quick thinking, drama and theatre. "A sense of humour is essential," says Sagar, who has to often clarify that auctioneers don't say "going once, going twice!" "That's more movie parlance," she says.

The chance at IPL came in the wake of Hugh Edmeades, its auctioneer, asking Sagar to be his backup amid Covid

in 2021. A few months on, she was asked to be the auctioneer for Pro Kabaddi League in September 2021. "It was my first experience with auctioning sports personalities," she says. She was later approached by BCCI for the inaugural Women's Premier League players' auction in February 2023.

"My family, right from my grandfather, has been extremely involved with cricket. Players' names, fielding positions and batting averages were part of my daily life. Yet, the transition from art to sport is something I am extremely conscious of. While both situations require you to present whatever is on offer in the best possible light, sport auctions need a higher

level of sensitivity as it is people's lives and professions at stake," she says.

From Christie's first Indian female auctioneer to the IPL's first woman auctioneer, "it has been an exciting and fulfilling two decades, no question," says Sagar, who has also participated in various charity auctions over the last 20 years to help raise funds for causes such as education, healthcare, children with special needs and cancer care.

To budding auctioneers in India who must do their own bidding, she advises: "Pursue your goals, and don't be deterred by lack of information. It is a very niche field. So, it just takes a little bit of extra effort and courage."



वीरांगना रानी दुर्गावती का 500 वां जन्मशताब्दी वर्ष



विरासत का सम्मान  
हर वर्ग का उत्थान



नरेन्द्र मोदी, प्रधानमंत्री



डॉ. मोहन यादव, मुख्यमंत्री

शौर्य और पराक्रम की प्रतिमूर्ति  
वीरांगना रानी दुर्गावती एवं रानी अवंतीबाई लोधी  
के सम्मान में  
संस्कारधानी जबलपुर में  
मध्यप्रदेश की नवगठित सरकार की  
**प्रथम कैबिनेट बैठक**  
एवं  
मुख्यमंत्री  
**डॉ. मोहन यादव**  
द्वारा  
विकास कार्यों का  
भूमिपूजन व लोकार्पण

**3 जनवरी, 2024**

अपराह्न 3:00 बजे । गैरीसन ग्राउंड

“ प्रदेश का हर क्षेत्र सम्पूर्ण रूप से विकसित हो और विकास का लाभ समाज के अंतिम पायदान के अंतिम व्यक्ति तक पहुंचना सुनिश्चित हो, मध्यप्रदेश इस उद्देश्य की पूर्ति के लिए दृढ़ प्रतिबद्धता के साथ आगे बढ़ रहा है। ”

- डॉ. मोहन यादव, मुख्यमंत्री

सीधा प्रसारण



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JansamparkMP



**Myanmar airlifts 151 soldiers from Mizoram:** A Myanmar army plane landed at the Lengpui airport near Aizawl on Tuesday and airlifted 151 personnel who had entered the state after their camp was overrun by Arakan Army militants, a senior state official said, reports **HC Vanlalruala**. On Friday, the Myanmar personnel had entered Tuisentlang village in Lawngtlai district. They were airlifted in two batches.

**Government of Odisha**  
**Information and Public Relations Department**  
Letter No. 68 IPR,  
DD-02/2014

**NOTIFICATION**  
**Expression of interest for Airport/Railway station Advertising**  
Government of Odisha in I&PR Department invites expression of interest by desirous agencies enjoying rights over the properties of Airport Authority/properties managed by Private Airport operators/ Indian Railways for the purpose of publicity in various modes including hoarding, static display board and digital video wall. In railway station the additional mode will be through audio based advertisement.

The interested agencies need to furnish details in regard to the sites having DAVP rate contract and commercial sites separately. Prescribed format to furnish relevant information and the terms and conditions is available in the department's website i.e. <https://inpr.odisha.gov.in>.

The proposal signifying the expression of interest should reach the department of I&PR, Government of Odisha in the following address i.e. "Director, I&PR Department, Govt. of Odisha, Keshari Nagar, Bhubaneswar, Odisha 751001" on or before 8th January 2024 by 1:00 PM through speed post or personal delivery only. The applicant agencies are required to remain present for opening of sealed papers on 8th January 2024 at 3:30 PM.

Sd/-  
**Deputy Director (AVP)**  
OIPR-15001/11/0237/23-24

**INVITATIONS FOR BIDS (IFB)**  
**GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA,**  
**AGRICULTURE & FARMERS' EMPOWERMENT DEPARTMENT,**  
**EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (AGRI.), DIRECTORATE OF HORTICULTURE**  
E-Mail:-nmimi.dho@gmail.com  
**e-Procurement Notice**  
**Bid Identification Number -E.E. (A), DHO-01 of 2023-24**  
Tender Call Notice No: 2C (H4)-07/2023/30 Date: 02.01.2024

Name of the work	Construction of Infrastructure Works for Year 2023-24
Total No. of Projects	10 (Ten) numbers
Estimated cost of projects	Varies from Rs. 8.0 lakh to Rs. 137.00 lakh
Class of contractor	"D", "C", "B" & "A" Class (of Odisha PWD) or relevant Class of other licensing authorities.
Period of Completion	As per TCN

**Other details:**

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification Number	Availability of Tender on-line for bidding From To	Submission of Original Documents	Date & Place of Opening of tender
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (AGRI.), DIRECTORATE OF HORTICULTURE, BHUBANESWAR	E.E.(A),DHO, BHUBANESWAR, 01 OF 2023-24	04.01.2024 from 11.00 A.M. 18.01.2024 up to 5.00 P.M.	During office hours of working days from dt. 19.01.2024 to 20.01.2024 upto 05.00 PM in the Office Chamber Executive Engineer, Directorate of Horticulture, Krusi Bhawan, Bhubaneswar, 751001 (To be dropped in the sealed Box)	Dt. 22.01.2024 at 11 AM in the Board Room-01 of Krusi Bhawan (Ground Floor), Bhubaneswar, 751001

Further details can be seen from the website [www.tendersodisha.gov.in](http://www.tendersodisha.gov.in)

Sd/-  
Executive Engineer(Agri.)  
Directorate of Horticulture, Bhubaneswar  
OIPR-01038/11/0006/23-24

**A-1123**

**GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA**  
**DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES**  
**OFFICE OF THE ADDITIONAL CHIEF ENGINEER**  
**CENTRAL IRRIGATION CIRCLE, BHUBANESWAR**  
**'e' Procurement Notice No. ACECIC - 33/ 2023-24**

Procurement officer	Bid identification No.	Name of Work	Cost of Work (Rs. in Lakhs)	Bid Security (Rs.) E.M.D.	Cost of Bid documents (Rs.)	Class of Contractor	Bid documents available online for bidding From To	Date of opening of Technical Bid	Period of completion of work
ACECIC, Bhubaneswar	NGR-15/2023-24	Cement Concrete Lining in Left Distributary of Kuanria Irrigation Project from RD.10.0 Km to 16.40 Km.	819.79	819800/- (On Line)	10000/- (On Line)	"A" & "Special" Class	03.01.2024 At 10.00 Hours 17.01.2024 At 17.00 Hours	18.01.2024 At 11.00 Hours	12 (Twelve Calendar Month)

e-mail ID : [secic\\_dowr@yahoo.com](mailto:secic_dowr@yahoo.com)  
Further details conditions can be seen from Govt. website [www.tenderodisha.gov.in](http://www.tenderodisha.gov.in)

Sd/- Additional Chief Engineer  
Central Irrigation Circle  
OIPR - 32160/11/0040/23-24

**Govt. of Bihar**

**Bihar Urban Infrastructure Development Corporation Ltd.**  
A Government of Bihar Undertaking

**Re- TENDER NOTICE INVITING PROPOSAL FROM CONSULTANT FOR PREPARATION OF DPR FOR SEWERAGE NETWORK SCHEME IN DIFFERENT TOWNS OF BIHAR**

No: BUIDCo/Yo-2856/2023 – 116

- Bihar Urban Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited (BUIDCo), a nodal agency for executing urban infrastructure projects in the state of Bihar, India.
- BUIDCo invites Proposals from eligible Consultants under **National Competitive Bidding (NCB)** for PREPARATION OF DPR FOR SEWERAGE NETWORK SCHEME IN DIFFERENT TOWNS OF BIHAR as listed below.

Group No.	Name of Town	Population As per census 2011	DPR need to be prepare for
Group-1	Darbhanga Nagar Nigam	296039	Sewerage Network
	Samastipur Nagar Nigam	253136	Sewerage Network & STP
	Madhubani Nagar Nigam	164396	Sewerage Network
	Sahrasa Nagar Parishad	216491	Sewerage Network
	Khagaria Nagar Parishad	119841	Sewerage Network & STP
Group-4	Ara Nagar Nigam	261430	Sewerage Network
	Danapur Nizamatt Nagar Parishad	182429	Sewerage Network
Group-5	Motihari	126158	Sewerage Network
	Daudnagar	52364	Sewerage Network

**Note: Consultant can participate either 1 or more group.**

- Bidding will be carried out under single stage two envelope (technical and financial bid) system. Consultants will be evaluated under Least Cost Basis Selection wherein the technical proposal would be first evaluated and those proposals which meet the qualification criterion of 75% marks as laid down in RFP Document will qualify for opening and evaluation of Financial Proposal.
- Eligibility Criteria for participating Consultants:**
  - Consultant(s) should have been incorporated and operational in India for at least 5 years as on 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2023.
  - Average annual turnover of the Consultancy Firm (s) for the last five financial years ending on 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2023 should be equal to or greater than INR 100 Crore.
  - Consultant(s) should have experience in preparation of DPRs for Sewerage System and STP work.
- Interested Consultants may submit their proposals along with (i) Bid Document Cost of INR 10000.00 (Non-refundable) and (ii) Bid Security of INR 1 Lakh (Refundable) as per provision of RFP Document on or before the Due Date and Time of **19.01.2024, 15:00 hrs**. The Bid will be opened on **19.01.2024 at 15:30 hrs**.
- Pre-proposal meeting will take place on **08.01.2024 at 15:00 hrs at West Boring Canal Road, Patna-800001** all interested consultants are advised to go through the RFP Document, visit the project area and communicate their queries, if any, in writing on or before **08.01.2024**.
- The bidder can download the bid document from 05.01.2024 from the website [www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in](http://www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in) and upload the scanned copy of required documents together with filled up documents on the web site: [www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in](http://www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in) to till **18.01.2024, 17:00 hrs**. Complete bids (Including Technical and financial) must be uploaded at [www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in](http://www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in) not later than the date indicated in NIT or amended by issued corrigendum.

This information is available on [www.state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar](http://www.state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar) also

**Chief General Manager, BUIDCo**

BUIDCo office, West Boring Canal Road, Patna-800001  
(Tel: 0612-2210101/02, Fax-2210103, Web: <http://buidco.in>, E-mail: [mdbuidco@gmail.com](mailto:mdbuidco@gmail.com))

PR. No. 014475 (N.I.Ni) 2023-24

**Govt. of Bihar**

**Bihar Urban Infrastructure Development Corporation Ltd.**  
A Government of Bihar Undertaking

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	Danapur Nizamatt Nagar Parishad	182429	Sewerage Network
Group-5	Motihari	126158	Sewerage Network
	Daudnagar	52364	Sewerage Network

**Note: Consultant can participate either 1 or more group.**

- Bidding will be carried out under single stage two envelope (technical and financial bid) system. Consultants will be evaluated under Least Cost Basis Selection wherein the technical proposal would be first evaluated and those proposals which meet the qualification criterion of 75% marks as laid down in RFP Document will qualify for opening and evaluation of Financial Proposal.
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- Pre-proposal meeting will take place on **08.01.2024 at 15:00 hrs at West Boring Canal Road, Patna-800001** all interested consultants are advised to go through the RFP Document, visit the project area and communicate their queries, if any, in writing on or before **08.01.2024**.
- The bidder can download the bid document from 05.01.2024 from the website [www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in](http://www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in) and upload the scanned copy of required documents together with filled up documents on the web site: [www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in](http://www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in) to till **18.01.2024, 17:00 hrs**. Complete bids (Including Technical and financial) must be uploaded at [www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in](http://www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in) not later than the date indicated in NIT or amended by issued corrigendum.

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**Chief General Manager, BUIDCo**

BUIDCo office, West Boring Canal Road, Patna-800001  
(Tel: 0612-2210101/02, Fax-2210103, Web: <http://buidco.in>, E-mail: [mdbuidco@gmail.com](mailto:mdbuidco@gmail.com))

PR. No. 014475 (N.I.Ni) 2023-24

**नशे से बनानी दूरी है, क्योंकि परिवार जरूरी है।**

## 2 Covid deaths, 573 fresh cases recorded in last 24 hrs in India

New Delhi: India recorded 573 fresh cases of Covid-19, and two more deaths in a span of 24 hours, according to data released by the Union health ministry on Tuesday. The active case tally stands at 4,565. The official data reflected two Covid deaths in 24 hours, one each in Karnataka and Haryana. As per INSACOG's data updated on Tuesday, a total of 263 cases of JN.1 sub-variant have been detected in India so far, with about half of them having been reported in Kerala. Ten states and UTs have so far detected the presence of the JN.1 sub-variant of the virus. These are Kerala (133), Goa (51), Gujarat (34), Delhi (16), Karnataka (8), Maharashtra (9), Rajasthan (8), Tamil Nadu (4), Telangana (2) and Odisha (1), according to INSACOG data. A sudden spike was seen in the number of daily cases after December 5 due to the emergence of a new variant and cold weather conditions. **TNN**

**संचालनालय खेल और युवा कल्याण**  
**टी.टी. नगर स्टेडियम भोपाल (म.प्र.)**

**खेलो इण्डिया स्मॉल सेंटर में प्रशिक्षकों की अनुबंध आधार पर सेवाएं प्रदाय करने हेतु आवेदन**

भारतीय खेल प्राधिकरण, नई दिल्ली की जिलों में खेलो इण्डिया स्मॉल सेंटर संचालित करने हेतु एथलेटिक्स, फुटबॉल, आर्ची, बैडमिंटन एवं टेबल-टेनिस खेलों में प्रशिक्षकों की आवश्यकता है, इस हेतु दिनांक **03.01.2024 से 17.01.2024 तक** आवेदन पत्र संचालनालय खेल और युवा कल्याण, टी.टी. नगर स्टेडियम भोपाल में आमंत्रित किए जाते हैं। प्रशिक्षकों की रक्तियां, योग्यता/अर्हता तथा पारिश्रमिक की दर व शर्तें आदि की जानकारी म.प्र. खेल और युवा कल्याण विभाग की वेबसाइट [www.dswwmp.gov.in](http://www.dswwmp.gov.in) पर उपलब्ध है।

म.प्र. माध्यम/113070/2024 **संचालक**

**CHITTARANJAN LOCOMOTIVE WORKS**

**OPEN E-TENDER**

No. COS/CRJ/PUB/E-Tender/19/0162 Date: 26/12/2023. The following e-Tenders can be accessed under the link [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) Offers for such e-Tender can be submitted only electronically by accessing the link [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) → login → E-Tender Stores/Supply. Vendors may also contact the following officials to obtain clarification regarding particular tender or IREPS related information if any. Dy.CMM/HQ/CLW/Chittaranjan, 0341-2525594 or SMM/CON/HQ, 0341-2535631. Office Address: office of the PCMM/CLW/Chittaranjan, St. No.; Tender No.; Brief Description of Item; Qty.; Earnest Money Deposit (Rs.); Tender Closing Date & Time (IST) are as follows: (1); 75233852A; (6) CONICAL SPRING WASHER FOR WAG-9HC AS PER CLW'S SPEC.NC. CLW/M/3/086 ALT-5 (each set consist of 03 items as per set details attached) [Warranty Period: 72 Months after the date of delivery]; (4) Conical Spring Washer for ELAAU/DKAE (Consisting of 01 item) [Spec: CLW/M/3/086 ALT-5] [Warranty Period: 72 Months after the date of delivery]; (3) 302.00 Set, (B) 70.00 Set; ₹ 0.00; 24/01/2024 at 11:00 AM. [2]; 75233795A; Bearing for Main Intermediate Gear & Pinion for WAP-5, Drg. No. 1210-01.311-021, 1210-01.411-022, 1210-01.411-023. [Detail as per set Details Attached] [Warranty Period: 36 Months after the date of delivery]; 5.00 Set; ₹ 254730.00; 27/01/2024 at 11:00 AM. PRS-277 PCMM/CLW/Chittaranjan Like us on: [www.facebook.com/clwrrailways](http://www.facebook.com/clwrrailways)

**WESTERN RAILWAY-AHMEDABAD DIVISION**

**SIGNALLING WORK**

**NOTICE INVITING TENDER No. - DRM-SNT-ADI-Sig 04 (Re-invite) of 2023-24** DRM/S and T acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites E-Tenders against Tender No. DRM-SNT-ADI-Sig 04 (Re-invite) of 2023-24 closing date 22.01.2024, 15:00 Bidders will be able to submit their original/ revised bids upto closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against this tender, and any such manual offer received shall be ignored. (1) **Name of work:** Part supply of signaling material, installation, testing & commissioning in connection with modification in south reception and dispatch yard for facility of simultaneous movement of SB/G yard and provision of parcel loading line by extending dead end of line No. 1 including road connectivity of Sabarmati (SBB) of Ahmedabad Division(Re-invite). (2) **Estimated Cost of work :** ₹ 1,04,01,754.03/- (₹ One Crore Four Lakh One Thousand Seven Hundred Fifty four Rupees and Three Paise only) (3) **Earnest Money Deposit :** ₹ 2,00,000/- (₹ Two Lakh Two Thousand only) (4) **Date and time of closing :** Not later than 15:00 Hrs of 22.01.2024 (5) **Date and time of Opening of Tender :** Opening on 22.01.2024 at 15:30 Hrs. (6) **Website of E-Tendering:** [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) 234 Like us on: [www.facebook.com/WesternRly](https://www.facebook.com/WesternRly)

**NORTH EASTERN RAILWAY**

**E-Tender Notice**

On behalf of the President of India, acting through Chief Administrative Officer/Con. North Eastern Railway, and Gorakhpur invites the following E-works Tenders: **E-Tender No.:** DY. CE-CON-HQ-25-2023 Dated 01.01.2024. **Name of work:** Earthwork and supplying, laying of blanketing material information, construction of minor bridges & other misc. works etc. between SISWA BAZAR (excl)-Paniyaha (Incl) Earthwork work, supply and laying of blanketing material and construction of small bridges and other miscellaneous works. **Approximate Value (₹):** ₹ 27,99,31,320.92. **Earnest Money (₹):** ₹ 15,49,700.00. **Cost of Tender Form (₹):** ₹ Nil. **Completion Period:** 24 (Twenty Four) months. **Note:** • Bidding Start date: 17.01.2024. • Last date of submission of above E-Tender up to 15:00 hrs. on 31.01.2024. • Date of opening of above E-Tender hrs. on 31.01.2024, 15:00. • Detailed tender notice, eligibility criteria, terms & conditions available on web site <https://ireps.gov.in>. • In case any disparity arises between Hindi and English version of tender notice, English version will hold good and will be followed. **Shri Ravi Prakash, AXEN/Con/HQ, Mobile No. - 9794844281** **DY Chief Engineer/Con/HQ CPRO/W-482 Gorakhpur** "DO NOT TRAVEL WITH INFLAMMABLE ARTICLE IN TRAIN"

# Shah instructs security forces to scale up J&K counter-terror ops

## Calls For Adequate Deployment Of Forces In Vulnerable Areas

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Home minister Amit Shah, who reviewed the security situation in Jammu and Kashmir here on Tuesday, instructed all arms of the security establishment in the Union territory to scale up counter-terrorism operations and fully dismantle the terror ecosystem, but stressed on the need to follow due procedures while doing so. While reviewing the area domination plan of the security agencies in J&K during the meeting — attended by J&K LG Manoj Sinha, NSA Ajit Doval, Chief of Army Staff, Intelligence Bureau director, heads of various central armed police forces and J&K's administration and police brass — Shah called for their adequate deployment in vulnerable areas and further strengthening of the local intelligence gathering network to defeat the threat of terrorism.



**REVIEWING SECURITY SITUATION:** Union home minister Amit Shah chairs a high-level meeting with J&K LG Manoj Sinha in New Delhi on Tuesday

Of late, the districts of Poonch and Rajouri along the LoC — where the Army is essentially deployed — have seen heightened terror activity by both foreign and local terrorists. Rajouri, Poonch and Reasi districts in Jammu region witnessed a series of encounters last year that left 54 people, including 28 terrorists and 19 security per-

sonnel, dead. While 31 people, including 10 terrorists and 14 security personnel, were killed in Rajouri, 15 terrorists and five security personnel were killed in Poonch district. Three terrorists were killed in Reasi district. Shah's emphasis on following due procedures while conducting counter-terror operations in J&K comes against the background of

the December 22 incident in Poonch where three civilians were found dead after they were picked up by the Army for questioning in connection with a terrorist ambush. The ambush had killed four soldiers a day before. The Army is conducting an internal probe into the death of the three civilians. Soon after their bodies were found, video clips purportedly showing torture of the three civilians had gone viral on social media. The incident sparked public outrage, prompting the authorities to announce compensation for their families. "If anyone is found to be guilty in the internal probe by the Army, they will definitely be punished. There is no need to pre-judge anything," a government functionary said on Tuesday. On December 27, defence minister Rajnath Singh said he had full faith in the Indian Army that it would wipe out terrorism from Jammu & Kashmir.

## India and UAE launch 'Desert Cyclone' drill in Rajasthan

New Delhi: India on Tuesday kicked off a joint military exercise called 'Desert Cyclone' with the UAE at the Mahajan ranges in Rajasthan, in keeping with the ongoing thrust on stepping up military ties with the Gulf countries. The aim of the exercise, which will continue till January 15, is to enhance interoperability between the two armies in sub-conventional operations, including fighting in built-up areas, in desert and semi-desert terrain, an officer said. The UAE contingent is being represented by troops from the Zayed First Brigade, while the Indian Army contingent is from the Mechanised Infantry **TNN**

# Desi anti-drone system to be installed along Pak border in 6 mths

Bharti.Jain@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: A fully-indigenous anti-drone system is set to be installed across the country's western border in six months to block drones being used by elements in Pakistan to smuggle arms and narcotics into India, particularly Punjab.

A senior government functionary said trials of the anti-drone technology were going on, with three options being tested. "The anti-drone system to be put in place across the entire western border will either be one of the three systems or a combination of two or more technologies," the functionary said.

On the eastern border, the functionary said the free movement regime (FMR) along the India-Myanmar border would soon be discontinued to arrest the influx of illegal migrants. FMR allows tribes living along the India-Myanmar border on either side visa-free travel up to 16 km inside the neighbouring country. However, with the ethnic violence in Manipur blamed to an extent on FMR facilitating illegal immigration and trafficking of narcotics and arms, the government, as part of a rethink, is planning to discontinue the arrangement and make visa mandatory for entry of Myanmar nationals through the land border. Dropping of arms, ammunition

and narcotics from Pakistan by using drones or unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) in Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir has been a major problem for security agencies for several years now. BSF DG Nitin Agrawal had earlier told **TOI** that 90 drones, including 81 in Punjab and nine in Rajasthan, were recovered by the force between November 1, 2022, and October 31, 2023. Drone sightings have gone up to 300-400 in the past year, as per BSF sources. However, an officer said that with heightened surveillance using handheld static and vehicle-mounted anti-drone systems, smugglers transporting drug consignments from Pakistan are lately finding it difficult to give the slip to BSF. They are forced to revise tactics, like using the Rajasthan route in the face of surveillance in Punjab but giving up after an intelligence leak led to seizure of four consignments in Rajasthan. The traffickers even tried to send the drones at a height but BSF surveillance systems were updated to catch them. Of late, a source said, smugglers were flying smaller drones with a lighter payload, of say 750 gm. Most drones flown from Pakistan are of Chinese make, as they are easily available and are cheaper compared to those from Turkey or Iran.

**राजकीय आर्युविज्ञान संस्थान**  
**GOVERNMENT INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES**  
Greater Noida, Gautam Buddha Nagar.  
Contact No. : 0120-2341738, 9999384468  
Email ID: [gimsnoida16@gmail.com](mailto:gimsnoida16@gmail.com) website: [www.gims.ac.in](http://www.gims.ac.in)  
(An Autonomous Institute under UP Government)

**Advtl. No. : GIMS/2023/tender/07 Date: 02/01/2024**

**E-TENDER/EOI**

- GIMS/E-Tender/2023-24/Eqpt/3072/Power drill and power saw
- GIMS/E-Tender/2023-24/Eqpt/3073/DVT Pump
- GIMS/EOI/2023-24/Hospital/5013/Operation maintenance of Fire Alarm System

**ANDHRA PRADESH MEDICAL SERVICES & INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION**  
2nd Floor, Plot No.9, Survey No.49, IT Park, Mangalagiri - 522 503  
email: [aphmhidc@gmail.com](mailto:aphmhidc@gmail.com) & [ed.aphmhidc16@gmail.com](mailto:ed.aphmhidc16@gmail.com)  
Tender Notice No.8/APMSIDC/2023-24 Dated: 02.01.2024

APMSIDC invites tenders through e-procurement platform (<https://tender.apeprocurement.gov.in/>) for

**Equipment Wing: 1.** Identification of vendor for Implementation of cloud-based radiology imaging and workflow management solution & CMS along with infrastructure in all GGHs in A.P. Procurement & Supply of 2. Equipment and other items to various Govt. Hospitals in A.P under NHM Funds. 3. Equipment & other items to DSH Hospitals in Andhra Pradesh. 4. Equipment & other items to DME Hospitals in Andhra Pradesh. 5. equipment and other items under CSS Scheme 6. Equipment and furniture items to APSACS. 7. Equipment to cancer care centers for 5 Districts (Kurnool, Kakina, Anantapur, Visakhapatnam, Guntur). 8.Equipment and other items to 5 new medical colleges/Hospitals 9. equipment to Existing Medical Colleges under PG Seats.

**Sd/- for Managing Director**  
DIPR No.2584PP/CLJADVT/11/2021-22 DL02/01/2024

**PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF A PERSON ACCUSED**  
(See Section 82 Cr. PC)

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person namely **Rahul@Vipin S/o Satbir R/o C-1/405, Sultanpuri, Delhi** has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in case **e-FIR No. 1194/2020 U/s 411/34 IPC & 102 CrPc, at P.S. Mangolpuri, Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrants of arrest there upon issued that the said accused **Rahul@Vipin** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused person **Rahul@Vipin of e-FIR No. 1194/2020 U/s 411/34 IPC & 102 CrPc, at P.S. Mangolpuri, Delhi** is required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before **08.02.2024**.

**By order**  
**Sh. Rishabh Kapoor Ld, Metropolitan Magistrate-05, North-West, Court No. 105, Rohini Court, Delhi**  
DP/15172/OD/2023

**GORAKHPUR DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**  
**GORAKHPUR, UTTAR PRADESH**  
(Government of Uttar Pradesh)  
Deoria Bypass Road, Taramandal, Gorakhpur, U.P.-273010

**INVITATION OF RFP/RFO**

NIT No.: 37/G.D.A./2023-24 Dated: 02/01/2024

On behalf of the Vice Chairman of Gorakhpur Development Authority (GDA), online RFP/RFO in prescribed form are invited by the Executive Engineer, Gorakhpur Development Authority (GDA), Deoria Bypass Road, Taramandal, Gorakhpur-273010, Uttar Pradesh from Competent Developers/Qualified Firm/Agency/Organization to participate in open bidding for "Appointment of Project Management Consultant for carrying out Technical Feasibility Study and preparation of detailed drawing, design and DPR for Implementation of Gorakhpur Eye (Giant Observation Wheel) Project at Gorakhpur, U.P. as per terms & conditions of RFP/RFO document. The interested bidders may submit their proposals online against the said RFP/RFO upto 14:00 hrs. by 29.01.2024. Interested bidders can tender the RFP/RFO document online at "www.gdagkp.in" & "www.etender.up.nic.in" website. RFP/RFO related procedures shall be completed on the e-tender website on NIC "www.etender.up.nic.in". For more information or any queries please contact Executive Engineer (9918001645) GDA, Gorakhpur.

**Executive Engineer**

**Govt. of Bihar**

**Bihar Urban Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited**  
A Government of Bihar Undertaking

**NOTICE INVITING RE-TENDER**  
FOR  
**Construction of Storm Water Drainage System for Ara Nagar Nigam Area, Ara, Bihar under Atmanirbhar Bihar Saat Nischay-2**  
(Through e-procurement mode only- [www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in](http://www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in))  
**NIT.No- BUIDCo/ Yo-2131/2021-01**

- Bihar Urban Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited (BUIDCo) invites bids from eligible experienced Firms/Contractors/Agencies.

Name of Work	Estimated Cost (In Rs. Lakh.)	Bid Document cost	Bid Security (EMD) (In Rs. Lakh.)	Time for completion	Bid Processing Fee
Construction of Storm Water Drainage System for Ara Nagar Nigam Area, Ara, Bihar under Atmanirbhar Bihar Saat Nischay-2	Rs. 7591.97056	Rs. 59,000.00	Rs. 85.92	24 Months	As per eproc2

1. Date of Downloading of Bid Document	From 19.01.2024 to 29.01.2024 up to 05:00 P.M. Through website : <a href="http://www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in">www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in</a>
2. Place & Date of pre-bid meeting	Date: 22.01.2024, Time 03.00 P.M.; BUIDCo Office, West Boring Canal Road (RajapurPul) Patna, Bihar, India, PIN - 800 001
3. Last Date and time for uploading of bid.	Date: 29.01.2024 up to 05.00 P.M. Through website : <a href="http://www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in">www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in</a>
4. Last Date and time for submission of hard copy of EMD	Date: 30.01.2024, Time 03.00 P.M
5. Time & Date of opening technical bids	Date:-30.01.2024, Time 03.30 P.M
6. Time & date of opening financial bids	To be communicated later on.
7. Place of opening of Bid	Through website : <a href="http://www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in">www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in</a>
8. Periods of bids validity	120 Days.
9. Officer inviting bids	Chief General Manager, BUIDCo, Patna.
10. Any Contractor registered with Central Government /any State Government or any PSU or an agency of international or national repute may give the tender but registration with BUIDCo will be essential after issue of LOA.	
11. For participating in E – tendering process, the contractor shall have to get themselves registered to get user ID, Password and Digital signature. This will enable them to access the website <a href="http://www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in">www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in</a> and download/participate in E – tender.	
12. All tender queries related to this tender shall be communicated to <a href="mailto:pdhguidco@gmail.com">pdhguidco@gmail.com</a> (i) Bid processing fees to be paid through online mode i.e. Internet payment gateway (Credit/Debit Card), Net Banking, NEFT/RTGS.	
13. (ii) Bids along with necessary online payments must be submitted through e-procurement portal <a href="http://www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in">www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in</a> before the date & time specified in the NIT. The department does not take any responsibility for the delay/Non availability of internet connection, Network Traffic/Holidays or any other reasons".	
14. The tender documents can be obtained through website <a href="http://www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in">www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in</a> and <a href="http://www.buidco.in">www.buidco.in</a>	
15. Bid document cost should be paid by online mode.	
16. Earnest Money can be paid online or in the form of Bank Guarantee of any scheduled banks payable in favour of Managing Director, Bihar Urban Infrastructure Development Corporation Ltd, on or before <b>03:00 PM on 30.01.2024</b> failing which the tender will be rejected.	
17. All the information/corrigendum/addendum related to the project shall be published on the website <a href="http://www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in">www.eproc2.bihar.gov.in</a> and <a href="http://www.buidco.in">www.buidco.in</a> .	
18. The authority shall have the right to cancel the tender without assigning any reason what so ever.	



## 'Savings' Beat Weight Loss As Top 2024 Resolution By Americans

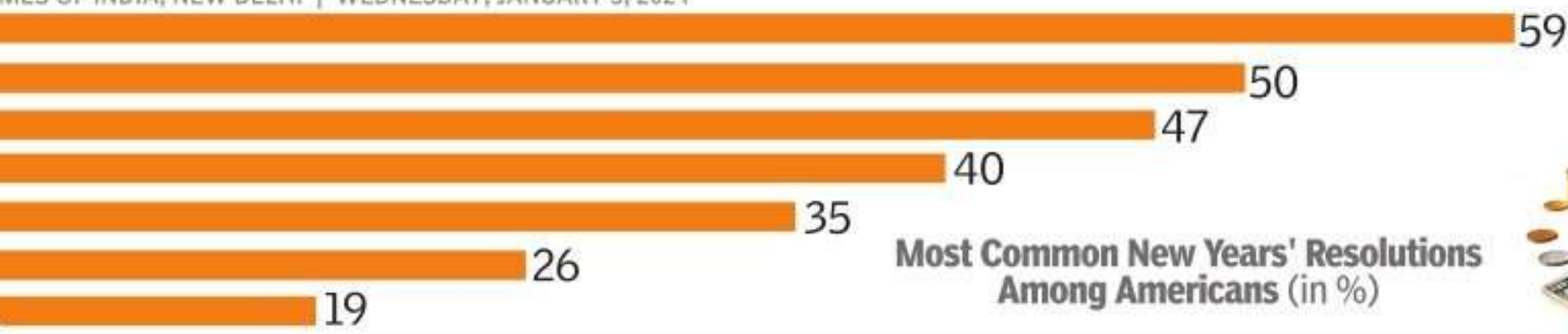
Planning to **save more money** is on top of mind for many Americans making resolutions for 2024. While the vows to **exercise more, eat healthier** and lose weight had come in top positions in previous years, this year, **financial vows** have leapfrogged them to become the most commonly cited resolution. Slightly further down the list came the goal of reducing stress from work and spending less time on social media (both at 19%)

(Source: Statista)

# TIMES BUSINESS

THE TIMES OF INDIA, NEW DELHI | WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3, 2024

Save more money  
Exercise more  
Eat healthier  
Spend more time with family/friends  
Lose weight  
Reduce spending on living expenses  
Spend less time on social media



Most Common New Years' Resolutions Among Americans (in %)



## Mis-selling: Govt suggests checks on insurance agents

### May Need To Keep Audio-Visual Records Of Sales Pitch

Dipak.Dash@timesgroup.com

**New Delhi:** Soon, insurance agents may be required to maintain audio-visual records of their sales pitch, where they must read out a summary of the policy features to prospective buyers.

With multiple cases in consumer forums and thousands of complaints of mis-selling, the consumer affairs department has written to the finance ministry seeking a change in rules that the terms & conditions, or at least the summary, should be clearly explained as it is not properly communicated, resulting in disputes.

In a letter to financial services secretary Vivek Joshi, consumer affairs secretary Rohit Kumar Singh has noted that the genesis of the dispute often lies in lack of proper communication, although consumers often complain that only positive aspects of

### PROTECTING CONSUMERS

Consumers often complain that **only positive aspects of policy are told** to them when insurance is sold

Genesis of the dispute often lies in **lack of proper communication**, consumer affairs secretary Rohit Kumar Singh has noted in a letter to financial services secretary Vivek Joshi

Terms and conditions in insurance policies are often in **"ambiguous language"**,

which is not understood by consumers, says Singh

Consumer affairs department has suggested that **policies must make inclusions and exclusions extremely clear** in terms and conditions

In many cases, insurance company representatives inform policyholders about exclusions when they apply for claims



the policy are told to them when insurance is sold. A final decision on the issue will, however, have to be taken by the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI), which sets the rules.

Also flagging that terms and conditions in insurance policies are often in "ambig-

uous language", which are not understood by consumers, Singh has suggested that insurance policies be framed "in the regional languages concerning the rural population of that particular area".

The consumer affairs department has also suggested that the policies

must make the inclusions and exclusions extremely clear in their terms and conditions. In several cases, when policyholders apply for claims, the insurance company representatives inform them about the exclusions then. Such clarity in policy documents will also bring down litigation in the sector, officials said.

Another suggestion by the National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission president Justice Amreshwar Prata Sahi is regarding the rejection of medical claims by hospitals if a policy holder is not hospitalised for at least 24 hours for surgery or treatment. "As advancements allow for treatments and surgeries to be completed within a few hours, it is imperative that such a clause be re-examined and suitably amended," Singh said in the letter reviewed by TOI.

## RBI flags use of credit bureau data for analytics

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Mumbai:** The RBI has raised concerns over credit information companies utilising consumer data for consulting and analytics purposes. This was conveyed to CEOs of credit information companies in their meeting with RBI deputy governor Swaminathan J on Tuesday. Executive directors and senior officials of supervision and regulation departments attended the meeting.

Credit information companies or credit bureaus are repositories of borrower data and generate revenue by providing lenders a customer's track record and credit scores based on the track record. However, with the massive amount of data that they collect, they are in a position to undertake deeper analytics and provide value-added solutions to lenders.

The deputy governor noted the vital role played by CICs in the financial system. He, however, pointed out a rise in customer complaints related to credit information, and some concerns have emerged during RBI's supervisory assessment.

The deputy governor highlighted the need to improve data quality, indicating potential discrepancies or shortcomings in the existing data management systems.

## GST dept goes on tax demand overdrive

### Looks To Meet Five-Year Deadline To Raise Claims | India Inc Biggies, MNCs Get Notices

Sidhartha & Namrata Singh | TNN

**New Delhi:** From Hindustan Unilever to ICICI Bank, HDFC Bank and Eicher Motors, almost all the big names of India Inc and thousands, if not lakhs, of smaller GST taxpayers have received tax demand on the eve of new year as authorities sought to meet the five-year deadline to raise claims, literally burning the midnight oil.

The notices range from mismatch of input tax credit, mismatch in turnover for various returns to demand for non-payment of tax on payments made to expats (in case of MNCs) for which demand has been raised from multinationals despite the confusion over their legality.

For instance, HUL has been slapped with a demand of over Rs 400 crore. "HUL has been proactively compliant in discharging all its GST dues for seconded employees. The company believes it has strong merits to challenge the demand as per the order and will make an assessment to exercise its right to appeal or make submissions before relevant authorities against the order. The order has no material impact on financials as well as no impact on operations or other activities of the company," a spokesperson said.

Tax consultants said that several MNCs have received similar demand notices.

There is no count on the number of notices as the Centre and state authorities have issued separate orders. According to exchange filings, one large company received five notices between December 30 and 31 from various officers, while another received three between December 29 and 31.

The tax demand ranges from a small portion of an entity's turnover, which will not cause any material impact, to the entire turnover, which is bound to trigger litigation. For instance, the demand on LIC is over Rs 800 crore, including penalty.

while for Eicher Motors it is Rs 130 crore and around Rs 27 crore for ICICI Bank.

"Since December 31, 2023 was the last date for issue of assessment orders for 2017-18 it has resulted in raining of orders on the eve of the new year. Blame lies equally on the doorstep of taxpayers who casually reply to notices without submitting proper evidence before GST authorities," said tax advocate RS Sharma.

cess," said Pratik Jain, partner, Price Waterhouse & Co.

Tax experts said that the current situation is far from the ease of business that was promised. "The spate of GST notices to businesses issued recently will require businesses to extract data for earlier years, reconcile the GST returns with the financials and in many cases the income tax returns as well, all of which will involve signifi-

### IT'S RAINING NOTICES

Some cos that got GST demand notices (in Rs crore)

LIC	800+
HUL	400+
Eicher Motors	130
ICICI Bank	27

What types of notices?

- Mismatch of input tax credit
- Mismatch in turnover for various returns
- Demand for non-payment of tax on payments made to expats (in case of MNCs)

Why the sudden surge

December 31, 2023 was the last date for issuance of assessment orders for 2017-18

Another barrage expected

One more set of notices expected towards the end of April, the extended deadline for financial year 2018-19

What next?

It may result in more litigations as companies would want to secure their interest even if they have to deposit a part of the demand

## Lenders with high NPAs face dividend curbs

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Mumbai:** The RBI has proposed to restrict dividend payout by lenders with non-performing assets below 6%. In a bid to overhaul nearly two-decade old norms, the regulator has also proposed ceilings on dividend payout ratios, which range from 50% for zero net NPA ratio to 15% for a net NPA ratio above 4% but less than 6%.

RBI on Tuesday released a draft circular on 'declaration of dividend by banks and remittance of profits to head office by foreign bank branches in India'. The existing guidelines on dividend distribution came into force in May 2005.

The move, aimed at protecting bank financials, is seen as a counter-cyclical prudential guideline as most banks have NPAs below this threshold. If banks with high NPAs are forced to plough back earnings, they will be in a better position to make provisions for the bad loans. When deciding on dividends or profit remittance, the board or bank management should consider NPAs, audit report qualifications, current/prospective capital positions, and the bank's long-term growth plans, RBI said.

## No min balance charges on 'inoperative a/cs': RBI

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Mumbai:** The RBI has said that banks cannot impose a penalty for not maintaining minimum balance on accounts that are inoperative — those that have not recorded any transaction for over two years. It also added that banks cannot classify accounts created for receiving scholarship money or direct benefit transfers as inoperative even if they have not been used for over two years.

The directive to banks are a part of RBI's new circular on inoperative accounts — and part of its efforts to bring down the level of unclaimed bank deposits. The new rules come into effect from April 1.

"These instructions are expected to complement the ongoing efforts and initiatives taken by banks and RBI

to reduce the quantum of unclaimed deposits in the banking system and return such deposits to their rightful owners/claimants," RBI said in its circular.

**Unclaimed bank deposits rose 28% in a year to Rs 42,272 crore as of March 2023**

Under the new rules, banks have to inform customers through SMS, letters or email of their accounts turning inoperative. Banks have also been asked to reach out to the person who introduced the account holder or the account holder's nominees in case the owner of an inoperative account does not respond.

"Banks are not permitted to levy penal charges for non-

maintenance of minimum balances in any account that is classified as an inoperative account. No charges shall be levied for activation of inoperative accounts," the rules said. According to a recent RBI report, unclaimed deposits rose 28% to Rs 42,272 crore as of end March 2023 from Rs 32,984 crore a year ago. Any balance in deposit accounts, which have not been operated upon for 10 years or more, are required to be transferred by banks to Depositor and Education Awareness Fund maintained by RBI.

In the past, RBI had directed banks to ensure that balances in accounts do not turn negative because of imposition of penalty charges for not maintaining minimum balances. Despite this, there have been instances of banks continuing to impose penal charges.

## AIFs may aid roll-over of stressed loans: RBI report

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**New Delhi/ Mumbai:** The RBI's recent regulatory actions on regulated entities investing in alternatives investment funds (AIFs) are meant to check evergreening and check possible spillover effects on the financial system due to growing linkages between various actors in the system. AIFs are pooled investment vehicles that can operate in India as an infrastructure fund, venture capital fund, debt fund, private equity fund or fund of funds.

In the Financial Stability Report, released last week, RBI has flagged its concern on how the growing interlinkages of AIFs with traditional segments such as banks, NBFCs and asset manage-

ment companies (AMCs) in terms of sponsor relationships, exposures to each other and common investor base.

**Sebi's move to bar AIFs from making fresh investments may address the issue to an extent**

A big worry is over possible evergreening of stressed loans. "In particular, AIFs with 'priority distribution model' are being set up to potentially aid in evergreening of stressed assets of some financial institutions/regulated lenders," the report noted, adding that the Sebi's decision to bar them from making fresh investments will solve the problem to an extent. The observation

also indicates that there is a joint regulatory effort.

While limited disclosure poses problems in monitoring, RBI also fears that non-residents taking the AIF route can potentially invest in domestic markets without adhering to rules.

The regulator said its recent actions are meant to address these threats although AIFs currently form a small portion of the Indian financial system. The regulator's primary concern is AIFs are raising money from lenders by issuing them units and providing funds to defaulting borrowers, who in turn are using the money to pay back the lender. Lenders and funds have been given a 30-day deadline, starting from December 19.

## \$3.2bn of bonds: D-Day for Vedanta

Vedanta Resources faces a moment of reckoning this week as billionaire Anil Agarwal's miner seeks approval for a proposal that could help it buy more time to honour its debt liabilities.

Bondholders have until January 2 to give early consent on a plan to push out due dates on \$3.2 billion in bond repayments — a move that prompted S&P in December to cut the company's rating deeper into junk. Vedanta needs a green light from at least two-thirds of the bondholders to proceed. BLOOMBERG

### SIGNING SEPARATION AGREEMENTS

A separation agreement is a mutually negotiated document that sets out the terms of separation of employment

Execs may need to be incentivised to sign such agreements, especially if they place onerous restrictions on them

At least a dozen senior executives — privy to business intelligence — have crossed over to rivals in recent years

Former Infosys presidents Ravi Kumar and Mohit Joshi signed separation agreements with Infosys before they quit

While Kumar moved to Cognizant as CEO less than three months after he quit Infosys, Joshi joined Tech Mahindra as CEO-designate immediately after he left Infosys, and went on to assume full responsibility later in that year



a legal expert who did not want to be named said.

However, executives may need to be incentivised to sign such agreements, especially if they place onerous restrictions on them.

Sources told TOI that for-

mer Infosys presidents Ravi Kumar and Mohit Joshi both signed separation agreements with Infosys before they quit. The agreements are said to have defined their contractual obligations of confidentiality, non-solicita-

tion, and non-disparagement.

Kumar moved to Cognizant as CEO less than three months after he quit Infosys. Joshi joined Tech Mahindra as CEO designate in June, immediately after he left Infosys, and went on to assume full responsibility in December when incumbent CP Gurnani retired. In 2017, Infosys is said to have signed a separation agreement with exiting CEO Vishal Sikka, which included mutual release and non-disparagement obligations.

At least a dozen senior executives have crossed over to competitors in the past couple of years. These leaders are privy to competitive business intelligence, deal pricing, client milestones, financial obligations and penalty clauses.

Wipro recently filed a suit

against former CFO Jatin Dalal — who quit Wipro in November and joined Cognizant as CFO in December — on the grounds that he violated non-compete obligations.

Pooja Ramchandani, partner for employment, labour, and benefits at law firm Sharad Amarchand Mangaldas said a separation agreement is a mutually negotiated document which sets out the terms of separation of employment. "It not only includes details of the separation package but also typically covers aspects of waiver and release of claim. It imposes post-employment restrictions on non-solicitation," she added. An email sent to Cognizant, Infosys and Tech Mahindra on the matter didn't elicit a response till the time of going to press.

## China injects \$50bn into policy banks

The People's Bank of China injected nearly \$50 billion worth of low-cost funds into policy-oriented banks last month, suggesting the central bank may be ramping up financing for housing and infrastructure projects to support the economy.

The outstanding amount of the PBOP's Pledged Supplemental Lending programme to policy banks climbed to 3.25 trillion yuan (\$456 billion) at the end of December from 2.9 trillion yuan in the previous month, the central bank said in a statement on Tuesday. The net injection of 350 billion yuan was the

largest increase via the tool since November 2022.

The PSL programme is seen as an important tool in Beijing's arsenal, which the government can use to shore up the property sector and stabilise growth this year. Markets have been expecting the central bank to use the money to drive construction of public housing in a bid to alleviate a multi-year property slump that's hampered consumer confidence.

Bloomberg News reported in November that policymakers were planning to provide 1 trillion yuan in low-cost central bank funding in phases. BLOOMBERG

## Bajaj Finance hikes FD rates by 25 basis pts

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Mumbai:** Bajaj Finance has hiked interest rates on its fixed deposits by 25 basis points by introducing a 42-month deposit with an interest rate of 8.6% for the general public and 8.85% for senior citizens. The interest rate on the 42-month deposit compares favourably to the 8.35% offered on 44-month deposits.

The 42-month scheme termed a 'digital fixed deposit' can be booked from the app, online, or through the assisted digital mode at branches.


The rate increase comes in the wake of RBI asking finance companies to diversify their funding sources.

Shilpa.Phadnis@timesgroup.com

**Bengaluru:** With a spurt in C-suite movements in the Indian IT sector, and with some of them landing in courts, separation agreements that supersede previous employment contracts are coming into vogue.

Legal experts say they are used to remind outgoing employees of their continuing obligations towards the company and sometimes, to place additional restrictions specific to the employee's role in the company. "For instance, if the employee has relationships with one or more customers, the employer may use the agreement to remind the employee not to solicit those specific customers, which is even more critical if the employee is joining a competitor,"





**A thought for today**  
*Writing laws is easy, but governing is difficult*  
**LEO TOLSTOY**

## Wheels Within Wheels

Harsh laws needed for road accidents. But what truckers & everyone need are better-designed roads

Truckers' 'steering *chhodo andolan*' – parking their trucks to clog highways and choke supply – did not suddenly erupt flash-mob style. It followed a letter written end-December to GOI by All India Motor Transport Congress (AIMTC) requesting a review of the maximum 10-year jail term and ₹7 lakh fine for hit-and-run accidents in India's new penal code BNS. But AIMTC's appeal to truckers to be patient clearly fell on deaf ears. Following talks with GOI yesterday, the strike was called off, with GOI assuring that stakeholder consultations will be held before the new law kicks in.

**Truckers' point** | The nodal body, and truckers, had feared that in hit-and-run cases especially on highways, police seldom investigate, simply blame truck drivers. There is no SOP on how to probe such cases. There's the additional fear of mob attacks by enraged locals on truckers who would pause to report an accident. To this, government said the law in no way suggests that the call to report an accident must be made from the site. The association believes the 10-year jail term will act as a deterrent to men joining the gruelling transportation sector, which already suffers a 27% shortage of drivers. The lifeline of India's supply chain stood disrupted. Hopefully, starting today, supply of fuel and other essential commodities will resume.

**But is the law to blame?** | Truckers have a point, but blaming the law is hardly the solution to their woes. A stringent law is required. India leads the world in road deaths. In 2022, almost 59,000 people died in hit-and-run cases, about 30% of all road fatalities. A person died in a highway accident every hour in Maharashtra in 2022, up 14% from the previous year. Indians can be callous drivers, with little care for rules or regulations.

**Missing the full picture** | Truckers fear false prosecution. Policing quality has indeed slipped countrywide. Further, several serious factors cause accidents, and highways minister Nitin Gadkari captured it in his 2020 interview to TOI: "Main reasons (for accidents and road fatalities) are faulty road engineering, defective detailed project reports, bad designing of junctions, inadequate signage and road markings." That is the crux.

So, harsh penalties alone are unlikely to make roads safer. Truckers' demand for softening the law is less important than getting roads and highways right.



## Capital Mistake

Chennai, Mumbai, Kolkata prepped better for New Year rush than Delhi. The difference was starkly evident

That the last day of 2023 fell on Sunday made merrily welcoming 2024 feel even more convenient. The best tourist cities really shine on occasions like this, providing enjoyable experiences to visitors from around the world. For India, which aims to rise on the global tourism charts, they are a handy barometer of how good it's got at playing host. Unfortunately, the country's capital performed particularly poorly.

**Delhi didn't prep** | From deploying too few traffic police to being sleepy about advance traffic jiggering, it was like the authorities didn't see the crowds coming. And yet, between the secular and the religious, locals and visitors, the holiday rush was completely predictable. A better run city would have increased the Metro frequency suitably, enforced special pedestrian and parking zones, and put out constant congestion alerts on social media. For example, long after the city zoo filled to capacity at 18,000 plus, unknowing revelers kept making their way to it. And knee-jerk traffic actions across the city only kept spreading the choke points.

**Chennai prepped well** | 18,000 personnel drawn from various wings of Greater Chennai Police were put on duty. The evening hours of December 31 saw crowds swell massively on Beach Road and other neighbourhoods. But extra pedestrian and parking zones earmarked and publicised in advance were widely enforced. A live traffic monitoring software was on the job. Traffic updates and alternative routes were constantly flashed on both X and Instagram.

**Mumbai, Kolkata scored high too** | Maharashtra's and Bengal's capitals saw a lot of extra police bandobast. Kolkata saw a lot of effort going into keeping the revelry flowing painlessly on Park Street. Pedestrian and car traffic was unusually well segregated. Alternative celebration spots in the city were also well organised and this helped the party spirits stay high everywhere.

**Don't blame us citizens** | All cities have to cope with drunken driving and other rule breaking. But where authorities do their job well, innocent citizens don't have to pay the price.

## The Dunki puzzle

How come the fastest-growing major economy produces so many illegal immigrants?



It was almost as if it were a real-life promo for SRK's latest release, *Dunki*.

Coinciding with the premiere of the film, which deals with four illegal migrants from India gaining entry into the UK, a chartered plane from Dubai, bound for Nicaragua, with 303 Indians on board, was detained during a stopover in France. It seems that the passengers were headed for the Central American country with the objective of gaining unauthorised entry into the US or Canada. They were on what, in the human trafficking trade, is called a dunki flight, which is the theme of SRK's movie.

**Dunki**, the vernacular pronunciation of donkey, has become synonymous with illegal migrants from India, who resort to the most desperate means to escape the country of their birth in the hope of finding a better life elsewhere.

In 2023, in a five-fold increase over the previous year, 96,917 undocumented – read illegal – Indian migrants were apprehended in the US alone, having got there via Central America and Mexico.

In what has come to be called the Great Indian Diaspora there are over 18 million Indians who have legally migrated to various foreign countries, making India the world's largest remittance economy, totting up an estimated \$125 billion in 2023.

Some 2.5 million Indians leave the country every year to find a home and livelihood abroad with the required documentation. But an undocumented, and unaccountable, number migrate, or attempt to do so, via the dunki route.

Why is this happening? India boasts being the world's fastest-growing major economy, globally the fifth largest, and set to become the third largest within the next few years.

So what compels so many of us to flee our country, risk everything, lured by the mirage of better prospects in distant lands, and in doing so give all Indians the tag of being suspect 'illegals'? What motivates these dunkis, many of whom come from the so-called 'Bimaru' regions but from prosperous states like Gujarat?

Dunkis are said to be dumb animals. But our dunkis pose a puzzle that baffles those of us who continue to believe in a Bharat be it never so Mahan.



### second opinion

# There's No Stopping Us Now? Wrong

India's growth has always been pegged to global ups and downs. Any other story, no matter 2023's striking macro numbers, is a fairy tale



Somnath Mukherjee

There is a new spring in India's steps. Economy's doing so well that in a world struggling with multiple uncertainties, international forecasters are upgrading India's growth prospects. Capital markets cheer

**Firm & high** | Foreign investors, so-called smart money, got serious FOMO – a condition so far alleged to be "uninformed" retail's bailiwick – when Indian markets held up remarkably well in 2022 despite serious levels of foreign outflows. Last few months, foreign flows have gushed in to compensate. Year 2023 was also when India navigated tricky, seemingly zero-sum, choices in a manner that can only be described as Indian Exceptionalism.

● War in Ukraine – India maintained its equidistance with Russia, picked up discounted Russian oil without the West forcing a "with us or against us" choice.

● Conflict in Gaza – India's combined support for Israel's right to retaliate against terror attacks with robust relations with Arab allies.

● The US went out of the way to help India pull off a successful G20 summit.

**Drumroll please** | India's rising economic heft drives most politico-strategic optionalities. Whether as a large consumer market or a potential China+1 alternate base for critical supplies, India is well positioned. There is a sense of inevitability to India's rise. Alongside, loud claims of an impending "superpower" status.

**But risky beat** | That's where the key risk lies. We've seen this movie before. Not once but several times since 1991. The 1991 reforms were the trend break, which triggered a sharp increase in growth – crossing 7% for a sustained period for the first time post-Independence. There was a similar heady feeling then too, with markets cheering it on and foreign investors making a beeline to set up shop.

**Up, down, up & up** | Growth petered out by 1997, but created enough political capital for AB Vajpayee to conduct nuclear tests in 1998 – and get away relatively lightly in terms of politico-economic costs. A longish economic winter followed. Growth picked up again in 2003, beginning the longest run of high growth India has seen, which went on till 2010-11.

**Manmohan years** | High private sector investment, lots of foreign investment, sharp rise in consumer demand and a euphoric capital market – yet again, the sense of inevitability of India's rise was infectious.



The politico-strategic capital enabled Manmohan Singh to strike the famous nuclear deal – upending the global nuclear order, carving out a special exemption for India. So strong was the tailwind that even China acquiesced to an exceptionalist Indian demand.

**Inevitable it's not** | Yet a sense of inevitability was quickly set aside – in 2013 India was bracketed as a "Fragile Five" economy. While recovery was relatively quick, trend growth remained inconsistent, with strong upturns seen only after the Covid trough.

In a nutshell, there's nothing unstoppable about India's rise – it is subject to global economic cycles, consistently under-performing China and East Asia when it was at similar levels of development.

## We Will Be Healthier If Docs Speak To Each Other More Often

There's plenty of research showing traditional medicines can complement allopathy. Patients need practitioners to come out of their silos

ES Krishnamoorthy & BN Gangadhar



There is a wealth of wisdom concerning science, health and culture in our ancient traditions. Yet many view this wisdom with skepticism, even derision. Here, we make a case for traditional healthcare systems finding their way into modern medical practice and why we must, as a nation and society, achieve this with urgency. While more research is clearly warranted, the future of integrative medicine could well be a fine blend of the modern and traditional.

**Spiritual dimension** | The principle that healthcare must be pluralistic is well-established, as is the definition

that health is a complete state of physical, mental and social well-being. Into this equilibrium that the individual has established within himself, 'the spiritual dimension' may also play an important role.

**Non-communicable disease factor** | Modern biomedicine or allopathy is differentiated today from older traditional medical systems, together referred to as "complementary & alternative medicine". One aspect of modern biomedicine that is perceived as inadequate is preventing and managing chronic and lifestyle diseases, also referred to as 'non-communicable diseases'. According to WHO, NCDs like cardiovascular diseases, chronic respiratory diseases and diabetes kill 17 million people each year; 86% of whom are in low- and middle-income countries. Globally one in eight people also live with a mental disorder, another NCD.

**Holistic approach** | When it comes to preventive and promotive health for all, especially those with NCDs, modern biomedicine recommends diet, exercise and lifestyle practices that are well woven into many ancient healthcare traditions worldwide – Ayurveda, Yoga and Mindfulness being popular examples. The National Centre for Complementary and Integrative Health in the US defines Integrative Medicine (IM) as a holistic approach to health and well-being that optimally uses conventional (modern) and complementary (traditional) medicines.

**Cultural nuancing** | There is also an increased awareness today that healthcare approaches must be "culturally sensitive and optimally tailored to the patient's needs and difficulties". Cultural consonance in our society includes the AYUSH traditions (Ayurveda,

hypertension, obesity, high cholesterol and diabetes.

**Harmonising varied disciplines** | How can we accomplish the active integration of modern and traditional systems into a 'single-window' service in mainstream healthcare? It should ideally involve active sharing and cross-transfer of patients between physicians across disciplines. But mere co-localisation of traditional and conventional healthcare services is inadequate. All healthcare providers in IM must possess considerable knowledge of each other's system, develop a relationship based on mutual trust and respect, *sans* hierarchy, and be willing to harmonise their approaches for the patient's well-being.

**Against dementia** | Research is continually generating proof about the benefits from IM in chronic and

disabling conditions. In our specialty of psychiatry and neuroscience, we can think of no better example than Alzheimer's dementia, in which sufferers receive proven benefit from non-pharmacological therapies, exercise, music and dance therapies or indeed various group activities researched extensively.

**India's role** | While more research about IM is warranted, India with its wealth of healthcare traditions is uniquely poised to play a leadership role in IM. Encouraging all those engaged in healthcare to learn more about each other's work and find novel pathways to the wider benefit of humankind is therefore vital.

Krishnamoorthy is a neuropsychiatrist. Gangadhar teaches integrative medicine

### Calvin & Hobbes



## Why Be Ordinary When You Can Be Extraordinary?

Jaya Row

In the movie *12th Fail*, a young boy in a remote village in the Chambal valley had a dream. He wanted to become an IPS officer and serve the country even when there was no money, no help and no pathway to his goal. Yet he achieved the impossible. Are you like him, inspired to accomplish greatness, or are you content with the mundane and ordinary life of millions?

You were born mortal but destined for immortality. Small-minded people settle for trifles like wealth, power, fancy cars, and luxurious homes. The wise are unconcerned with mere playthings. They seek the permanent. For how long will you remain in the kindergarten of life? Move to higher, more fulfilling realms.

You have two wonderful gifts – choice of action and intellect. You make choices

from the time you are born. The intellect needs to be developed. Everyone has talent. To translate this talent to excellence you need the intellect. The intellect is developed by thinking. Ponder, question, enquire. Gradually, your intellect sharpens and you are better able to guide the urges of the senses and impulses of the mind. You transform, from an immature, unsteady person to a mature, reliable leader.

A calm mind is the precursor to excellence. When the mind is calm, the intellect is clear, and actions brilliant. Rise above desire and you are content. Think of yourself, you are unhappy. Think of others, you are happy. Shift from the attitude of grabbing to giving, from profiteering to offering, and you will be content.

The Bhagwad Gita speaks of *yajna*,

working in a spirit of service and sacrifice for a higher ideal. Selfishness leads to mediocrity and misery. Espouse a higher cause and you achieve amazing success. When a sportsperson surrenders to the team and plays for the country, he performs magnificently. He breaks records, his team wins, and the entire nation celebrates. Lower desires fade away. Yet money, laurels and accolades come his way and he becomes an icon. Fix Enlightenment as the goal and all desires vanish. But you gain the whole world. As Christ would say, seek the kingdom of heaven and all else will be added unto you.

Do you feel competitive towards people? Are you consumed by a sense of otherness? Then you feel insecure and threatened. You imagine friends as enemies, partners as opponents. There

are no enemies in the world. All your foes are within. Nobody else can harm you except yourself. So, change your attitude towards people. View them as allies, not adversaries. Reach out to them, feel for them. And you create wonderful teams. They go beyond the call of duty and work dedicatedly for a common goal. You achieve outstanding success. Your happiness multiplies. When your neighbour gets a promotion, you get heartburn. But if you feel one with him, he does the hard work, and you celebrate.

When success comes your way, remember that everything in the world is transitory and fleeting. Enjoy the world. But do not depend on anything. Then you become a towering personality, untouched by the vagaries of the world. You gain infinite Happiness. Your transformation is not just a journey from ordinary to extraordinary but a passage to immortality.



### Sacred space

Watch any plant or animal and let it teach you acceptance of what is, surrender to the Now. Let it teach you Being. Let it teach you integrity...to be yourself...how to live and how to die, and how not to make living and dying into a problem.

Eckhart Tolle



## TECH I'D LIKE TO SEE

## BUILDINGS THAT SENSE AND ANALYSE DATA

While many technological advancements have already been made in the flex office space industry, there are several areas where further innovation could greatly improve efficiency, sustainability, and overall effectiveness. Here are some technologies that are not yet widely available in facilities management but could be transformative in the future.

**Energy harvesting:** Widespread adoption of energy harvesting technologies within facilities could generate power from various sources, including kinetic energy from foot traffic, solar panels integrated into building



Ashish Chitrode | VICE PRESIDENT - FACILITIES, SIMPLIWORK OFFICES

materials, or piezoelectric flooring that converts footsteps into electricity.

**Robotics for maintenance and cleaning:** Expand the use of robotics for routine maintenance tasks and cleaning operations. Autonomous robots could navigate through buildings, identifying and fixing issues or cleaning as needed.

**Cognitive building management systems:** Develop cognitive systems that can analyse vast amounts of data from building sensors, weather forecasts, and occupancy patterns to make real-time decisions on heating, cooling, and lighting, optimising energy usage and comfort.

## IIT DELHI TEAM WINS INTERNATIONAL QUANT CHAMPIONSHIP



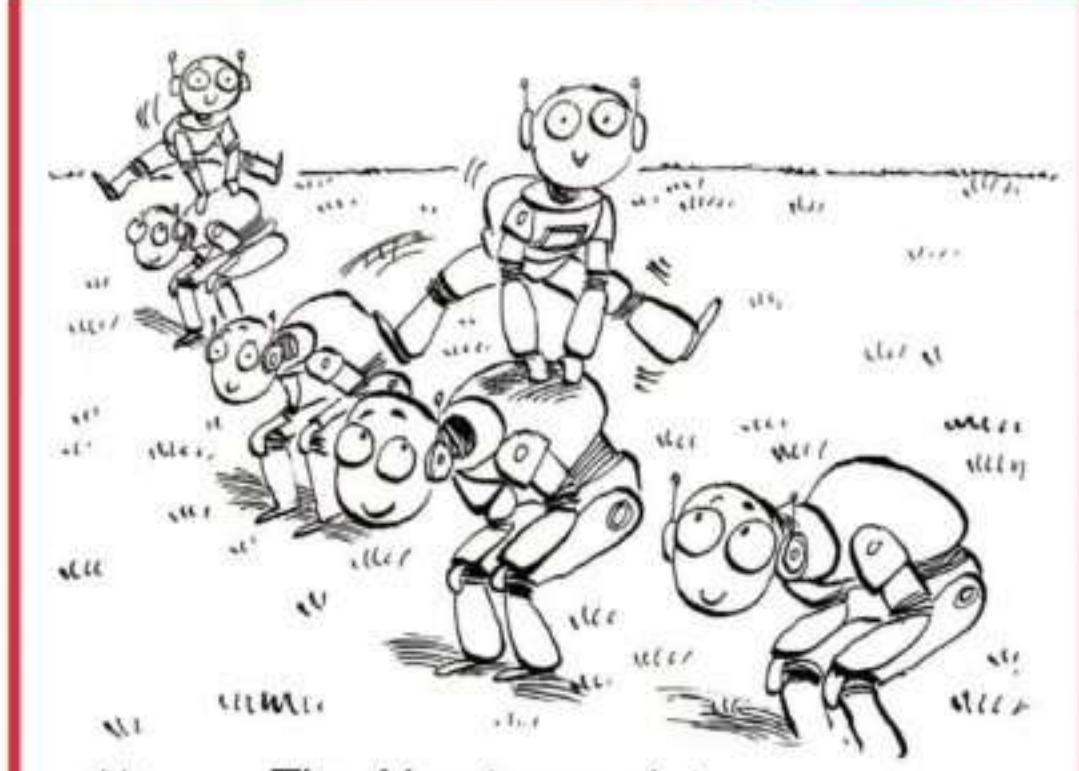
(L-R) Igor Tulchinsky, CEO of WorldQuant, Nitish Maini, chief strategy officer of WorldQuant, Vaibhav Gupta of IIT-Delhi

Vaibhav Gupta (extreme right in pic), together with his IIT Delhi teammate Nihar Patel, won the 2023 International Quant Championship (IQC) last month. The championship, organised by global quantitative asset management firm WorldQuant, saw over 30,000 participants from over 100 countries. It's a three-stage competition, and teams have to build alphas, mathematical models that seek to predict the future price movements of various financial instruments. There's a prize pool of \$100,000. Vaibhav and Nihar are third-year B.Tech students.

Jingli Wang from McMaster University, Toronto, came in second, and Yiran Zhu from the University of Edinburgh, was in third place.

Almost Artificial

Sunil Agarwal &amp; Ian Baker

The AI autocomplete says  
'Happy New Leap Year'

# From pharmacy of world, India moves to innovation in pharma

GCCs drive the trend, using tech to help with everything from drug discovery to biz services

Swati Bharadwaj &amp; Sindhu Hariharan | TNN

No longer is India just the 'pharmacy of the world', manufacturing and exporting bulk drugs and affordable generic medicines, it is also now rapidly emerging as a hub of pharma innovation and digitisation, as global pharma giants home in on India for their global capability centres (GCCs).

Be it mature GCCs of Danish giant Novo Nordisk and Swiss behemoth Novartis, which came up over 15 years ago, or younger ones like Roche, big pharma is counting on Indian talent to drive future growth. The centres here support global functions such as clinical trials, pharmacovigilance and drug safety, and regulatory drug filings. They chip in with drug discovery and help the parent companies leverage emerging technologies such as Gen AI, AR/VR, and IoT.

Novo Nordisk's blockbuster weight loss and type-2 diabetes drug Semaglutide, which sells under the brand names Wegovy and Ozempic, respectively, was supported by its Bengaluru-based global business services (GBS) centre. The GBS provides analytical and technology support to get a drug to market through preclinical trials' analytics and data collation for regulatory submissions. Set up in 2007, it houses over 3,500 people who drive digitisation and automation of global business processes and cater to 13 global functions. "The Indian affiliate is respon-

## 38 PHARMA GCCs IN INDIA, EMPLOYING NEARLY 60,000 PEOPLE

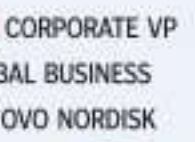
We were among the pioneers when we set up our GCC in Hyderabad nearly 15 years ago. Today, it is our largest Novartis Corporate Centre and one of the important centres in the global organisation that is fueling our next phase of growth.

Naveen Gullapalli | GLOBAL HEAD, NOVARTIS CORPORATE CENTRES



Our GBS serves as an integrated extension to our headquarters in Denmark, and Bengaluru has emerged as a strategic location for highly skilled talent, tech innovation, and a robust startup ecosystem.

John C Dawber | CORPORATE VP & MD - GLOBAL BUSINESS SERVICES, NOVO NORDISK



The ratio of insourcing to outsourcing of IT and tech has definitely moved - from 80% of outsourcing earlier, we are now

doing 70% of work inhouse.

Siva Padmanabhan | MD AND HEAD, GLOBAL INNOVATION & TECHNOLOGY CENTRE, ASTRAZENECA

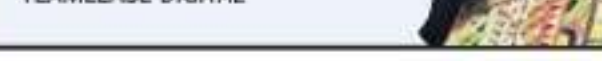
India as a geography is the right place and it's the right time. In just two years of formation of Roche Information Solution India, members from the site at Pune have been part of global teams that have filed five patents so far.

Raja Jamaladaka | MD, ROCHE INFORMATION SOLUTIONS INDIA



Pharma GCCs are shaping the future in India, leading the charge in adopting AI, robotics, and blockchain in pharma operations. This evolution demands digitally skilled talent and fosters upskilling opportunities. GCCs drive innovation, job creation, and operational efficiency.

Krishna Vij | BUSINESS HEAD, TEAMLEASE DIGITAL



Our primary focus has been to build capabilities around electronics, life science and healthcare. We have an entire gamut of technological capabilities encompassing the creation of applications, marketing and sales initiatives, as well as ERP implementation and support.

Anuprita Bhattacharya | HEAD, MERCK IT CENTRE, INDIA

There are over 38 pharmaceutical GCCs in India, employing 59,042 people. They represent around 2.5% of the total number of GCCs, but they account for 3.5% of the total installed GCC talent in India.

Mohammed Faraz Khan | PARTNER, ZINNOV



derabad and

Mumbai, caters to all the company's global functions - clinical operations, technical R&D, patient safety & pharmacovigilance, and regulatory matters. The latter houses 3,000 of the 12,000 global development employees and has been an integral part of the development of several breakthrough medicines in cardiovascular, oncology, immunology, neurology and ophthalmology, a Novartis spokesperson says.

AstraZeneca has over 3,100 employees across its Global Innovation and Technology Centre (GITC) in Chennai and R&D centre in Bengaluru. GITC hosts over 50% of the group's technology operations. AstraZeneca's India centres work on Gen AI applications such as co-pilot tools that answer FAQs on rare diseases, and on immersive technologies that train shop floor operators and which physicians use to understand how new drugs work. "The focus is on automation, so that we can free up our teams to work on futuristic solutions," says Siva Padmanabhan, MD & head, GITC.

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Merck has three centres of excellence (CoEs) - shared business services CoE set up in 2011, Merck IT Centre (2018) and Healthcare R&D

## HARNESSING DATA, AND DEVELOPING AUTONOMOUS MOBILITY SOLUTIONS

Engineers at Continental India, a technology development arm of the German automotive technologies company Continental, talk about the cutting-edge work they do.

Srividhya Kannan | SENIOR MANAGER (CONCEPTING FOR CAMERA)

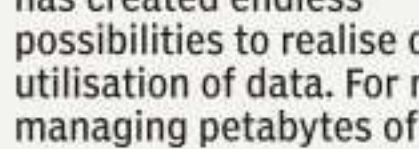
I have a doctorate in computer applications, and over 15 years of experience in computer vision and autonomous mobility. Continental has provided me with a platform to explore and broaden my research perspective in the rapidly advancing field of autonomous mobility. This has resulted in conceptualising and developing many path-breaking solutions that form a base for highly autonomous driving conditions. I believe in cultivating an environment where both personal and professional growth thrives. Consequently, I actively promote a culture of innovation and peer learning among my team members. I take it as my responsibility to groom students, which I do through my university engagements, instilling practical skills, sharing technological insights, or by delivering technical lectures.



and peer learning among my team members. I take it as my responsibility to groom students, which I do through my university engagements, instilling practical skills, sharing technological insights, or by delivering technical lectures.

Rojalin Samantary | LEAD ARCHITECT, DATA SOLUTIONS (AUTONOMOUS MOBILITY)

I am responsible for developing ADAS data lake using cloud computing technology platforms like AWS and Azure. The work goes further into developing tools for data ingesting, processing, management, governance, analytics, and business intelligence. Cloud computing has created endless possibilities to realise optimal utilisation of data. For me, managing petabytes of data,



Sandhya Chandrashekar | SYSTEM ENGINEERING HEAD (HPC)

I have over 15 years of automotive engineering experience. I began my career developing traditional powertrain products and technologies. At present, I work on the advanced technologies that form the foundation for future mobility, such as high-performance computer (HPC) integration in passenger cars for domains including body electronics, smart cockpit, and autonomous mobility. I am always on the quest for cross-functional synergies that could solve the biggest problems faced by the automotive industry. For instance, deploying AI/ML applications to drive the full potential of HPC, device a robust cyber security system, or design the architecture using Autosar stack to enable functions that can be easily updated and upgraded. I draw my motivation from my team and my role model leaders. I empower my team to achieve new benchmarks.



understanding it, analysing its complexity, and finally deducing meaningful conclusions is so rewarding. It is nothing short of a thrill looking at many vehicles playing on the road that have the technologies that you have worked on.

As a techie, what motivates me is the power of data. Data can be so impactful in making decisions, devising new ideas, or simply solving a problem statement that has been boggling the industry.



## Poornima uses data to improve MS products

SwatiShindeGole@timesgroup.com

2023 was an incredible year for Poornima Muthukumar. She graduated from her part-time Master's in data science course from the University of Washington. She had her first baby. And both of these while managing a full-time job as a senior product manager at Microsoft in Redmond, Seattle.

The journey, she says, was filled with anxiety and doubts, but the end result has been beautiful and rewarding.

Poornima grew up in Mumbai and did high school in the DAV school in Chennai. She ranked sixth in the Tamil Nadu board exam in Std XII. She went on to do a Bachelor's degree in computer engineering from National University of Singapore. She was passionate about programming to solve challenging real-world problems.

## INSPIRATION

"I became good at finding my ground in a new place and getting along with people from various backgrounds and walks of life. And that's a much needed leadership skill," she says.

Her first job was with Goldman Sachs in Singapore and then New York, where she spent time building software for banking systems and capital markets. In 2015, she moved to Microsoft's Ireland Research Centre, where she worked as part of the MS Office Team, and then moved to Microsoft's headquarters in Redmond.

A product manager who can analyse large amounts of data and draw insights to guide product decisions will have a competitive edge in the market.

Poornima Muthukumar | SENIOR TECHNICAL PRODUCT MANAGER, MICROSOFT



In the MS Office Team, she was involved in the design, architecture and development of all Office products, including Word, Excel, PowerPoint, OneNote, Outlook, and Teams, to all customers, across all platforms - Windows, Mac, iOS, and Android.

She got the opportunity later to work with petabytes of Office telemetry data, and realised the power of Big Data and how data can drive business growth. That encouraged her to take up the Master's

degree in data science.

Poornima today holds four patents at Microsoft in areas like AI, ML, and data science, and was the winner of the Microsoft Global Hackathon in 2016 in the AI category.

"The patents are related to ensuring software changes do not introduce new bugs or regressions that can compromise the functionality, performance, security or usability of the software system. My patents propose a novel solution using machine learning techniques, such as natural language processing, clustering, classification, and regression, to extract useful information and insights from bug data for predicting and preventing future bugs in software engineering systems," she says.

As a senior product manager in Microsoft today, she leverages her data science and technical background to build data-driven products. Poornima believes data is the fuel of product management.

"A product manager who can analyse large amounts of data and draw insights to guide product decisions will have a competitive edge in the market. Data-driven product management enables faster and more informed decisions, better understanding of customer needs and behaviour, and more effective measurement of product performance and impact. A good product manager should master the skills of data collection, analysis, visualisation, and communication, and use them to drive business growth and innovation," she says.

## WHAT 2024 WILL BRING

On our page last Friday, we carried predictions for 2024 from a slew of top technologists. We continue that here.

## AI will be dancing on our doorsteps

Usha Jamadagni | CHIEF DELIVERY OFFICER, MARLABS

2024 is primed to be a year where technology takes a sharp turn, leaving dusty footprints of "same-old" behind. Buckle up, because two trends are set to redefine how we interact, process, and experience the world. The first is edge computing. Data's no longer trekking to distant servers; it's getting processed right where it's born - on your smart fridge, self-driving car, even your toaster! Expect lightning-fast responses, smoother streaming,

and AI dancing on your doorstep, all thanks to this decentralised data fiesta. AI going phygital is the second trend to look out for. Get ready for the real world and the digital world merging like never before. AI isn't just on screens anymore; it's weaving itself into the fabric of our lives. Imagine augmented reality glasses guiding surgeons through operations, or robotic bartenders crafting your perfect cocktail based on your mood. The line between physical and virtual will blur, creating experiences that are both mind-blowing and surprisingly familiar. Also, keep an eye out for the rise of 'citizen developers' and the battle for ethical AI. These are just whispers now, but they'll be roaring, come 2024!



## It will be harder to spot cyber criminals

Robert Blumofe | EXECUTIVE VP AND CTO, AKAMAI TECHNOLOGIES

In 2024, cyber criminals' weapon of choice will be social engineering. Previously, a social engineering attack required a high degree of effort - extensive research on the victim and significant time to craft convincing fakes. All of this changes with modern AI.

Modern AI can automate the research for social engineering attacks. Further, Gen AI, with its extraordinary skill at mimicry, can create convincing deepfakes. The result is high-yield social engineering attacks perpetrated at scale. This trend, combined with stricter government regulations in Asia-Pacific and Japan to protect personal identifying information and prevent data leaks, will push companies to invest in zero trust architecture, especially micro-segmentation, to protect critical assets even when an employee accidentally falls victim to social engineering.



## Attempts to weaponise Gen AI will not work

Saurabh Bagchi, Professor | ELECTRICAL &amp; COMPUTER ENGINEERING &amp; COMPUTER SCIENCE, PURDUE UNIVERSITY

We have all been startled by the power of OpenAI's ChatGPT and its ilk of Gen AI tools, like Google's Gemini and Meta's Llama. One crucial question in 2024 will be, can these be weaponised to make our cyberspace more insecure?

First, there is some evidence that these can be used for creating phishing or more generally, misinformation campaigns. This is an area where detection techniques will quickly improve to ensure that this stays like an arms race, but we do not fundamentally become insecure. The ultimate objectives of phishing are few and not changing (such as, to extract money or credentials) and detection techniques will focus on catching at that point, irrespective of how the phishing mails were generated.

Second, there is some early evidence that LLMs can be used to generate malware. However, what LLMs generate are rarely usable because they rely on large data sets, and security vulnerabilities, by definition, do not have large existing trails of data. There will be significant, and expert, manual effort involved in crafting malware and then the defence techniques will be able to keep up with the volume of such malware.

Third, only few organisations can afford to create and release LLMs due to the technical expertise needed. Such organisations operate under legal norms and they will put guard rails such that bad actors cannot weaponise them.



## GLOSSARY OF IN-GROUP TERMS USED ON THIS PAGE



## CITIZEN DEVELOPERS

Citizen developers refer to individuals who are not professional programmers or developers by trade but create software applications or tools for their own use or for the benefit of their teams or organisations. These individuals typically have a non-technical background but possess a good understanding of the specific business processes or requirements they are addressing. Citizen developers often leverage low-code or no-code development platforms, which provide graphical interfaces and pre-built components to simplify the application

development process. These platforms allow users to create applications with minimal hand-coding, making it more accessible to individuals without a traditional programming background. Citizen development can empower organisations to address specific needs more quickly and efficiently, as it enables those closest to the business processes to create solutions without waiting for traditional development resources. However, it's essential to balance the advantages of citizen development with considerations related to data security, compliance, and long-term maintainability.

## BIG DATA

Big Data refers to large and complex sets of data that exceed the capabilities of traditional data processing tools. It is characterized by the three Vs - volume, velocity, and variety. Volume is a characteristic because of the massive amount of information, while velocity refers to the fact that Big Data is

generated and collected at high speeds. Variety is a characteristic of Big Data because the data can come in various formats and types - like structured data, unstructured data, and semi-structured data. To manage and extract valuable insights from big data, specialised technologies and analytical methods are often employed.





FRANCISKA RAISA, WHO DONATED KIDNEY TO SELENA GOMEZ, REVEALS THEY DIDN'T TALK MUCH FOR 6 YEARS, BUT SHE NEVER HAD REGRETS



TAYLOR SWIFT SPENDS 68 WEEKS ATOP BILLBOARD 200, BREAKING ELVIS PRESLEY'S RECORD FOR MOST WEEKS AT NO. 1 ON US CHART

# 379 On Jet Escape Inferno After Runway Crash At Tokyo Airport

## 5 On Coast Guard Plane Die After Collision With Passenger Aircraft

Tokyo: All 379 passengers and crew of a Japan Airlines plane miraculously escaped from a fire following a collision with a Coast Guard aircraft at Tokyo's Haneda airport on Tuesday, but five of the six crew of the coast guard plane were killed. The Coast Guard said the collision involved one of its planes that was headed to Niigata airport on Japan's west coast to deliver aid to those caught up in a powerful quake that struck on New Year's Day, killing 55 people.

"I felt a boom like we had hit something," a passenger on the Japan Airlines flight told Kyo-do news agency. "I saw sparks outside the window and the cabin filled with gas and smoke." Live footage on public broadcaster NHK showed the Japan Airlines (JAL) Airbus A350 aircraft bursting into flames as it skidded down the tarmac shortly before 6pm. It was later overwhelmed by the blaze despite feverish efforts by rescue crews to control the fire. But not before all 367 passengers and 12 crew were evacuated. The fire, that started at the back of the plane and eventually engulfed the whole aircraft, was put out by 115 fire-fighting units about six hours later. The airline said the evacuation began almost immediately after the plane came to a standstill and that all



Footage and images shared online showed passengers shouting inside the smoke-filled cabin and running across the tarmac from an evacuation slide. Videos also showed passengers being evacuated calmly via escape slides

passengers were taken to safety within less than 20 minutes. Japan's transport minister Tetsuo Saito confirmed that five of the coast guard aircraft's crew had died. The captain of the plane escaped but was injured. NHK, citing the Tokyo fire department, said at least 17 of the people evacuated from the passenger plane were injured. A transport ministry official told a press briefing the JAL plane was attempting to land normally when it collided with the coast guard's Bombardier-built Dash-8 maritime patrol plane on the runway. There had been no reports of engine or other problems on the aircraft before it landed, the official said. Tuesday's accident was the first time one of the Airbus

A350, among the industry's newest large passenger planes, was severely damaged. It entered commercial service in 2015. Footage and images shared online showed passengers shouting inside the smoke-filled cabin and running across the tarmac away from an evacuation slide. Video also showed passengers being evacuated calmly via escape slides. Passengers and aviation experts praised the speed of the evacuation. "I heard an explosion about 10 minutes after everyone and I got off the plane," said 28-year-old passenger Tsubasa Sawada. "I can only say it was a miracle, we could have died if we were late." Paul Hayes, director of air safety at a UK-based aviation consultancy, noted



that no-one leaving the plane appeared to be carrying hand luggage — safety agencies have warned for years that pausing to collect carry-on bags during an evacuation risks lives. Haneda, one of the two main airports serving the Japan's capital, was closed for several hours, but the transport ministry official said three runways had since resumed operations. The transport minister said the cause of the accident was unclear and the transport safety board, police and other departments would continue to investigate. PM Kishida said authorities were working to ensure the accident didn't affect deliveries of quake relief supplies, and expressed sorrow over the deaths of Coast Guard crew. REUTERS & AP

## 200 Tremors Felt Since 7.6-Temblor Hit On New Year's

Wajima (Japan): A powerful earthquake that hit Japan on New Year's Day killed at least 55 people, with rescue teams struggling in freezing temperatures on Tuesday to reach coastal areas where many are feared trapped under possibly thousands of destroyed homes.

In Suzu, a town of just over 5,000 households near the quake's epicentre, 90% of houses may have been destroyed, according to its mayor Masuhiro Izumiya. "The situation is catastrophic," he said.

The quake with a preliminary magnitude of 7.6 struck on Monday afternoon, prompting people in western coastal areas to flee to higher ground as tsunami waves swept cars and houses into the water.

Around 200 tremors have been detected since the quake first hit on Monday, according to the Japan Meteorological Agency, which warned that more strong shocks could hit in coming days.

PM Fumio Kishida said the extent of damage from the quake was becoming "increasingly clear" more than 24 hours after it struck on the Noto peninsula in Ishikawa prefecture. "The government has deployed emergency rescue teams from the Self-Defence Forces, police and fire departments to the area and is doing its utmost to save lives and rescue victims and survivors, but we have received reports that there are still many people waiting to be rescued under collapsed buildings." Kishida said some 3,000 rescuers were finding it difficult to reach the northern tip of the peninsula where helicopter surveys had discovered many fires and widespread damage to buildings.



Situated on the 'Ring of Fire' arc of volcanoes and oceanic trenches that partly encircles the Pacific Basin, Japan accounts for about 20% of the world's earthquakes of magnitude 6 or greater, and each year experiences up to 2,000 quakes that can be felt by people

### Major Quakes in Japan In Last 30 Years

Jan 16, 1995 | 7.3-quake kills 6,400 in Kobe, causes \$100bn in damage  
March 11, 2011 | 9.0-quake and tsunami hits northeast Japan, 20,000 die; causes meltdown in Fukushima, leading to worst nuclear disaster since Chernobyl  
April 16, 2016 | 7.3-quake rattles Kumamoto, 220 die

### Some Of World's Worst Quakes

Sept 8, 2023 | 6.8-temblor kills 2,100 in Morocco  
Feb 6, 2023 | 7.8-earthquake in Turkey & Syria, 21,600 die  
April 25, 2015 | 8,800 die in 7.8-earthquake in Nepal  
Jan 12, 2010 | Over 100,000 killed by a magnitude 7.0 quake in Haiti; govt estimated 316,000 dead  
May 12, 2008 | 7.9-quake in China kills 87,500  
Oct 8, 2005 | 7.6-quake kills over 80,000 in Pakistan  
Dec 26, 2004 | 9.1-quake in Indonesia triggers an Indian Ocean tsunami, 230,000 die

# Hamas deputy head killed in 'Israeli hit' in Beirut, could escalate W Asia conflict

Beirut: The deputy head of Hamas, Saleh al-Arouri, was killed on Tuesday night in an Israeli drone strike on Beirut's southern suburbs of Dahiyeh, a stronghold of allied Lebanese militant group Hezbollah, Lebanon's state-run news agency and Hamas said. Israeli officials declined to comment.



ISRAELI BEGINS PULLING BACK TROOPS: Israeli soldiers pack ammunition at a staging area near the border with Gaza. The Israeli military said on Tuesday that it had begun withdrawing some soldiers from parts of Gaza, part of a planned pullout of about five brigades, but its forces continued pounding the enclave with airstrikes, according to residents

the Al-Qassam Brigades, was elected the deputy chairman of Hamas's political bureau in October 2017. His official role was as the head of Hamas in the West Bank and as the deputy to the group's leader, Ismail Haniyeh, who heads the Hamas political office in Qatar. But in recent years, al-Arouri spent much of his time in Beirut, where he served as a sort of Hamas ambassador to Hezbollah, according to regional security officials. He was regarded as being close to Yahya Sinwar, the Hamas leader in Gaza, and part of efforts by some Hamas leaders to boost the group's ties with Iran.

Al-Arouri was among the Hamas leaders closest to Iran, and the Iranian news media published photos of him and supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei after the news of his killing. Israel, which issued a deck of playing cards to soldiers featuring the faces of Hamas officials to help them identify the group's leaders, made al-Arouri the joker. NYT & AGENCIES

## Harvard prez resigns amid plagiarism accusations

Faced with a new round of accusations over plagiarism in her scholarly work, Harvard's president Claudine Gay announced her resignation Tuesday, becoming the second Ivy League leader



to lose her job in recent weeks amid a firestorm intensified by their widely derided conged

essional testimony regarding antisemitism on campus. The resignation of Gay marked an abrupt end to a turbulent tenure that began in July. Her stint was the shortest of any president in the history of Harvard since its founding in 1636. She was the institution's first black president, and the second woman to lead the university.

Over the last month, plagiarism accusations had surfaced against Gay, the president of Harvard, signalling that the attacks on her qualifications to lead the Ivy League university are continuing, and miring the university deeper in debate over whether Harvard holds its president and its students to the same standard. The latest accusations were circulated through an unsigned complaint published Monday in Washington Free Beacon, a conservative online journal that has led a campaign against Gay over the past few weeks. The new complaint added accusations of plagiarism to about 40 that had already been circulated in the same way, apparently by the same accuser.

Support for Gay began eroding after what some saw as the university's initial failure to forcefully condemn the Hamas attack on Israel and some pro-Palestinian student responses. Outrage against her rose after Gay gave what critics saw as lawyerly, evasive answers before Congress when asked whether calls for the genocide of Jewish people were violations of school policies. NYT

# Russia pounds 2 Ukraine cities in new wave of attacks

Kyiv: Russia pounded Ukraine's two biggest cities in a new wave of heavy air strikes on Tuesday, killing at least five civilians and prompting calls for the West to quickly provide more military assistance. The missile and drone attacks on the capital Kyiv and the northeastern city of Kharkiv also wounded dozens of people, caused widespread damage and hit power supplies, officials said.

Russia has intensified its attacks over the New Year period, with President Putin warning on Monday that a Ukraine accidentally bombed its own village in its southern Voronezh region near Ukraine on Tuesday but stressed there were no casualties. The accident occurred the same day as Russia hit Ukraine with a large-scale missile attack. "On January 2, 2024, at around 9am Moscow time (GMT), during a flight of the Aerospace Forces, an abnormal discharge of aircraft ammunition occurred over the village of Petropavlovka in the Voronezh region," the Russian army said in a statement quoted by Russian news agencies. "There are no casualties," it added. Petropavlovka lies some 150 km east of the Ukraine border. The ministry said six private houses were damaged in the accident, Russian news agencies reported. "An investigation into the circumstances of the incident is under way," the statement read. The governor of the Voronezh region said some of Petropavlovka's residents had been moved to temporary accommodation. In April last year, the Russian army acknowledged that one of its warplanes accidentally dropped a bomb in its city of Belgorod. AFP

## Russia accidentally bombs own village

Russia said it had accidentally bombed a village in its southern Voronezh region near Ukraine on Tuesday but stressed there were no casualties. The accident occurred the same day as Russia hit Ukraine with a large-scale missile attack. "On January 2, 2024, at around 9am Moscow time (GMT), during a flight of the Aerospace Forces, an abnormal discharge of aircraft ammunition occurred over the village of Petropavlovka in the Voronezh region," the Russian army said in a statement quoted by Russian news agencies. "There are no casualties," it added. Petropavlovka lies some 150 km east of the Ukraine border. The ministry said six private houses were damaged in the accident, Russian news agencies reported. "An investigation into the circumstances of the incident is under way," the statement read. The governor of the Voronezh region said some of Petropavlovka's residents had been moved to temporary accommodation. In April last year, the Russian army acknowledged that one of its warplanes accidentally dropped a bomb in its city of Belgorod. AFP

rainian air strike on the Russian city of Belgorod, which Moscow said killed 25 civilians, would "not go unpunished".

Smoke belched out of the charred side of a high-rise residential building in Kyiv where mayor Vitali Klitschko said an elderly woman had been killed and 49 people hurt. Emergency services later recovered another corpse from the building. A 91-year-old woman was killed in a missile strike on Kharkiv that also wounded dozens and a married couple was killed in an attack in the area around Kyiv, local officials said. REUTERS

# S Korea oppn chief stabbed in neck by man who approached him for autograph

Seoul: South Korean opposition Democratic Party leader Lee Jae-myung was stabbed in the neck on Tuesday by a man who lunged at him with a knife after asking for his autograph, officials said. Lee, 59, was rushed to hospital, where he underwent surgery to repair a major blood vessel, and was later recovering and conscious in an intensive care unit, party spokesperson Kwon Chil-seung told reporters. Kwon condemned the attack, weeks before a parliamentary election that is due in April, as "political terror".



Injured Lee Jae-myung in Busan

Lee, who narrowly lost the 2022 presidential election and is on trial on bribery charges he denies, was attacked in the city of Busan while touring the site of a proposed new airport.

The suspect, wearing a paper crown with Lee's name on it, approached Lee, asked for an autograph and then lunged

forward and stabbed him in the neck, video footage showed. Lee grimaced, staggered back into the crowd behind him and collapsed. Photographs showed him on the ground with his eyes closed and bleeding, and a handkerchief being held against his neck. Lee was airlifted to the capital Seoul after receiving emergency treatment in Busan, and had two hours of surgery. The assailant was quickly subdued by party officials and police officers, the video footage showed. A Busan police official, Son Je-han, said the assailant was born in 1957 and used an 18-cm (seven-inch) knife that had been bought online. He did not identify the suspect and said the motive was being investigated. "This type of violence must never be tolerated under any circumstances," President Yoon Suk Yeol was quoted as saying by his office.

South Korea has a history of political violence. Political leaders are not usually under close security protection. Lee's predecessor, Song Young-gil, was hurt in 2022 by an assailant who swung a blunt object against his head. Then conservative opposition party leader Park Geun-hye, who later served as president, was slashed in the face in 2006. Her father, Park Chung-hee, who was president for 16 years, was shot and killed by his spy chief in 1979 at a drunken private dinner. REUTERS

# Pak PM remark on Baloch stir triggers national strike

Omer Farooq Khan | TNN

Islamabad: A key Baloch activist called a "shutter-down strike" across Pakistan on January 3 against alleged rights abuses and "genocide" after caretaker PM Anwaar ul Haq Kakar slammed week-long protests in Islamabad as support for "terrorists" and blamed India's intelligence agency RAW for fomenting trouble in the restive region. The strike call was issued Tuesday by Mahrang Baloch, who has been leading the Islamabad stir by hundreds, mostly women, against alleged "enforced disappearances" and "genocide" of innocent Baloch people at the hands of Pakistan's security agencies. The protesters arrived in Islamabad last month, covering over 1,600km from Balochistan's Turbat. Kakar at a presser in Lahore, insisted that those protesting in Islamabad were the "relatives of those fighting against the state" in Balochistan. "We respect their right to protest because their dear and near ones have disappeared. But they should also know that they (militants) were fighting against the state, with the help of RAW funding and aided by India. It is an armed rebellion with foreign help," he said.

Mahrang rejected the interim PM's assertions. "From the inception of our movement, our demands have been clear — end to all rights violations in Balochistan and the cessation of Baloch genocide," she said in a post on X. "Today, the PM of Pakistan declared victims of enforced disappearances as terrorists, insulting the victims' families and addressing peaceful political activists in a threatening tone."

## AROUND THE WORLD



A musician takes part in 135th Rose Parade in Pasadena, California

## Meloni's party MP takes gun to NYE party, hurts guest & sparks political storm

An MP from Italian PM Giorgia Meloni's party was at the centre of a political storm on Tuesday after taking a gun to a New Year's Eve party where someone was shot with it. Emanuele Pozzolo, a lawmaker for Meloni's far-right Brothers of Italy party, has admitted owning the mini revolver — reported to be a 22-calibre North American Arms revolver — but says he did not fire it. It was discharged by accident, he said, causing a light injury to the leg of a guest. The incident at the party in Rosazza near Turin, which about 30 guests attended, is under investigation. But the story drew astonishment and outrage among opposition politicians. Possession of firearms in Italy is strictly regulated. Former centrist PM Matteo Renzi said: "Why bring guns to a NYE party in the presence of MPs and members of the government?"

Meloni's (party) are not a ruling class. They are inadequate, incapable, unrepresentative. And dangerous, first and foremost for themselves."

### Missing Chinese found after 'cyber kidnapping' in US

A Chinese exchange student who fell victim to a "cyber kidnapping" scam in which his parents were extorted for \$80,000, was found alive but "cold and scared" in a tent in the Utah wilderness, police said. Kai Zhuang, age 17, was reported missing on Thursday after his parents in China told officials at his host school in Riverdale that he appeared to have been kidnapped and a ransom had been requested. The case followed a typical pattern for cyber kidnapping, in which "kidnappers" tell a victim to isolate and provide pictures of oneself as if being held captive — photos that are then sent to the victim's family to extort a payment. The victims comply under fear their family will otherwise be harmed. Police said cyber kidnappers have been targeting foreign exchange students recently.

# How to start New Year in Rio? Not with fireworks, but by making sea goddess happy

Rio De Janeiro: Each New Year's Eve, more than 2 million revelers — twice as many as typically fill Times Square — dress in white and pack Copacabana Beach in Rio de Janeiro to watch a 15-minute midnight fireworks extravaganza. The one-night hedonistic release is one of the world's largest New Year's celebrations and leaves Copacabana's famed 2.4 miles of sand strewn with trash.



The origins of Rio's December 31 fireworks come from old Umbanda traditions. Followers make offerings to goddess 'Iemanjá' and ask for good fortune

on New Year's Eve to make offerings to their goddess of the sea, Iemanjá, and ask for good fortune in the year ahead. It quickly became one of the holiest moments of the year for followers of a cluster of Afro-Brazilian religions that have roots in slavery, worship an array of deities and have long faced prejudice in Brazil. Then, in 1987, a hotel along the Copacabana strip started a Dec. 31 fireworks show. It was a huge hit that began attracting large numbers. "Obviously, this was great for the hotel industry, for tourism," said Ivanir Dos Santos, a professor of comparative history.

A new New Year's tradition was born, and the revelers adopted some old Umbanda traditions, including throwing flowers into the sea, jumping seven waves and, especially, wearing white, a symbol of peace in the religion. But the huge party, Dos Santos said, "also then pushed the worshippers off the beach." Not entirely. Dos Santos was standing on Copacabana Beach, dressed in white, with the chants of Umbanda worshippers behind him. Yet this was Dec. 29, the date when devotees of the Afro-Brazilian reli-

gions now descend on Copacabana Beach to make their annual offerings to Iemanjá. Alongside beachgoers in bikinis and vendors selling beer and barbecued cheese, hundreds of worshippers were trying to make contact with one of their most important gods. Devotees believe that Iemanjá, who is often depicted with flowing hair and a billowing blue-and-white dress, is the queen of the sea.

Many gathered under a tent for traditional dances and songs around an altar of small wooden ships, loaded with flowers and fruit, that would be sent in-

to the sea. Outside, they dug shallow altars in the sand, leaving candles, flowers, fruit and liquor. "This is a tradition passed from generation to generation," said Bruna Ribeiro de Souza, 39, a schoolteacher. Alexander Pereira Vitoriano, a cook, carried one of the largest boats and waded into the waves first. As he let the boat go, a wave capsize, a sign to the followers that Iemanjá had taken the offering. "She comes to take everything bad to the depths of the sacred sea, all the evil, the sickness, the envy," he said. "It's a clean start to the new year." NYT





**SALAH SCORES 2 AFTER CHANGING BOOTS AS LIVERPOOL DEFEAT NEWCASTLE 4-2 IN EPL**

# TIMES SPORT

THE TIMES OF INDIA, NEW DELHI | WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3, 2024

**EX-AUSTRALIAN OPEN CHAMPION KENIN UPSET BY RODIONOVA AT BRISBANE INTERNATIONAL**



**Beleaguered India Look To Pick Up The Pieces After Centurion Thrashing But Visitors Are Yet To Win In Cape Town, The Venue For The 2nd Test**

## NEW YEAR, NEW LANDS, NEW HOPE

Nitin.Naik@timesgroup.com

“Do you think in terms of cricket, India are one of the most under-achieving sports teams in the world? They haven’t won much in recent times. They don’t win anything.”

If Team India needed a reality check as to where it stands in international cricket despite the billions in its coffers and despite being ranked No. 1 across formats, former England skipper Michael Vaughan provided it during a commentary piece for Fox Sports. The innings and 32-run capitulation in Centurion, inside two and a half days, deserves a thorough inquest and questions need to be asked about how red-ball-ready this unit was when its players assembled for a two-Test assignment in a country where they have never won a Test series.

Three years back, when India were bowled out for 36 in Adelaide, Vaughan had posted on twitter, now X: “Told ya, India are going to get hammered in the Test series. Australia vs India 4-0.” We all know how well that turned out. It’s up to skipper Rohit Sharma and his men now to show Vaughan and his latest comment is also out of order.

The skipper needs to start with himself. After all the accolades for his turbo starts and leadership in the World Cup, it’s now time to shun the

hangover of losing the final and take steps towards improving his average of 12.8 in Tests in South Africa.

He was the first India batter to hit a ton in 2021 (Chennai) and 2023 (Nagpur). If he shows better shot selection than he did and keeps the pull shot in his hotel room closet, may be 2024 can be added to the above list. Rohit was also tactically poor in Centurion and not bowling Jasprit Bumrah and Mohammed Siraj immediately after lunch on Day Two was a curious decision. In the autumn of his career now, Rohit, 36, knows he is a better batter than just having one hundred in Tests in SENA countries in his kitty.

Rohit has plenty on his plate and lifting India from sixth in the WC table will be topmost on his mind. He will also be thinking of replacements to bolster the side’s batting and bowling. World’s leading all-rounder Ravindra Jadeja should walk into the side as a replacement for Shardul Thakur. Jadeja missed the first Test because of a back injury and India missed his services.

Thakur, barring his 7-61 at the Wanderers in early 2022, has been

**WHAT’S IN STORE?** Shubman Gill (left) and Ravindra Jadeja inspect the pitch at the Newlands Cricket Ground in Cape Town

LIVE ON STAR SPORTS, 1.30PM		
SA	INDIA	
ICC TEST RANKINGS		
4	1	
HEAD TO HEAD		
SA	IND	DRAW
18	15	10

### VENUE: CAPE TOWN

The Newlands pitch will test the skills of batters with the pace and bounce it has to offer.

### WEATHER

Clear weather during the first three days but there is a chance of rain on the last two. Temperature will hover around 24 degrees.

profligate with the ball and his batting ability is purely notional. India missed a tall, hit-the-deck bowler in Centurion and the strongly built Avesh Khan, with 154 sticks in 39

first-class games, mostly for Madhya Pradesh, may be able to do what the South African quicks did. Floaty half-volleys on middle and leg, the kind that Prasidh Krishna dished out on debut at Super Sport Park, is not the way to go in South Africa. The scanners will be out on Shreyas Iyer too. Does he have the skill and stomach to wear a few on his body like the retiring Dean Elgar did in Centurion and all through the last series two years ago? Or is he willing to be known as a batting star only in less probing conditions? The same applies to Shubman Gill. Since he

asked for a No. 3 spot, his returns have been 6, 10, 29\*, 2, 26. An average in the early 30s after 19 Tests should put him on notice considering the competition in India for spots.

The batters need not look beyond KL Rahul and Virat Kohli, the two players who negotiated the conditions in Centurion with élan, for inspiration and guidance.

The generous tinge of green, despite the baking the surface received under the sun, will keep the peerless Kagiso Rabada hungry for more success. The champion South African seamer has had the wood over Rohit Sharma, getting him out seven times. If Lungi Ngidi is fit enough to partner him and the pacy Nandre Burger, India’s batting will be tested again.

## Rohit bats for protection of Test cricket

‘Priority, Lot Of Thought Must Be Given To Longer Format’

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

There has been a gamut of emotions and opinion on the future of Tests after South Africa, last week, chose to send a second string squad for the Test series in New Zealand. Most of their first-choice players are contractually obliged to be engaged in the SA20, which clashes with the NZ Test series. After Australia’s generational talent and skipper Pat Cummins, despite enjoying a huge pay day in the IPL auction last month, said earlier in the day in Sydney that Test cricket is the ultimate format and needs to be incentivized, India skipper Rohit Sharma voiced similar sentiments.

A master of the white-ball formats and one of the biggest brands in the IPL, Rohit knows that legacies and memories are built only through performances in Test cricket. “Obviously for me, Test cricket is the ultimate challenge,” he said.

“You would want to see the best players playing in that format. I don’t know what the discussions are in Cricket South Africa but from my perspective I think that the priority and a lot of thought should be given to Test cricket,” he added.

The 36-year-old said that India and Indian cricketers were lucky to not have “those kinds of problems in India at this point of time.” But he was adamant that all countries needed to join forces to promote Test cricket.

“It’s something all countries need to protect and give importance to. All the nations that are playing, it is their responsibility to keep it nice and entertaining and competitive.” Rohit’s counterpart, Dean Elgar, who will be retiring after the Cape Town Test, lamented

**3** After winning his first four Tests as captain in India (2 each vs Sri Lanka & Australia), Rohit Sharma has lost 3 Tests (2 vs Australia & 1 vs South Africa), won 1 and drawn 2. India’s only overseas win under his captaincy was by an innings & 141 runs vs West Indies in Roseau in July, 2023.

**3** wickets claimed by spinners for India in the 2021-22 Test series in South Africa at an average of 60.66 and strike rate of 128.3 (all 3 taken by Ashwin). This is the least number of wickets taken by Indian spinners ever in a series of three or more Tests against any opponent.

about the decline of the format in his country. “The situation we’ve been put in is not ideal,” Elgar stressed and hinted that it’s the behind-the-scenes activity rather than player choices that has led to seven uncapped players going to New Zealand.

“Irrespective of what has happened behind the scenes there is still a lot of hunger for Test cricket from the guys who are playing,” he said.

Elgar chose to look at the positives and urged the players going to New Zealand to look at it as an opportunity. “They can put in performances that will eventually help them become regular members of the squad.”

The 85-Test veteran reasoned that the decision to prioritise the SAT20 in holiday season over Tests had nothing to do with the players.

“What happens behind the scenes is totally out of our control. It’s out of our hands, the coaches’ hands, the team management’s hands. It’s sad that it’s gone in that direction,” Elgar said.

## It’s ‘Warner Week’ in Sydney Test

**Retiring Opener In Focus As Aussies Target Clean Sweep**

**Sydney:** Australia will go for the tried and tested as they look to sweep Pakistan in their three-match series and send veteran opener David Warner out a winner at his home ground in his final Test this week. Pat Cummins confirmed on Tuesday that the same team that won the first Test in Perth by 360 runs and the second in Melbourne by 79 runs would take the field for the final clash at the Sydney Cricket Ground on Wednesday. The Australia captain said that Warner, who has sometimes divided opinion even in his own country, fully deserved to end his Test career on his own terms in his 112th match in the longest format.

“Warner Week has started,” Cummins told reporters. “I think he’s our greatest three-form player. Three formats over a decade, two 50-over World Cups, one T20 World Cup and in all those campaigns he was front and centre and a big reason for it. Playing more than 100 Tests puts him in an elite category in all three formats. Every time he walks out there, he’s competitive, ready to go, so just a champion of Australian sport and hopefully he gets a good send off this week.”

Warner said on Monday that he would be also retiring from ODIs, leaving a big gap at the top order for Australia to fill in two formats. Cummins gave few clues as to who is leading the running to open for the two Tests against West Indies in January, although he



**GRAND FAREWELL:** Australia’s David Warner, his wife Candice and their children at the SCG

did cite Warner’s current partner Usman Khawaja as an example of a non-specialist who forced his way into the team.

Pakistan captain Shan Masood has a different set of problems to contemplate as he looks to motivate a team that was mauled in the opener and failed to exploit their opportunities in the second Test. “I

thought we played some very good cricket,” he said. “But look, we’re playing the best side in the world, and if you give them a sniff, they will pounce on any opportunity.” Pakistan have dropped opener Imam-ul-Haq and rested pace spearhead Shaheen Afridi, bringing in Saim Ayub, who will make his Test debut, and off-spinner Sajid Khan. **REUTERS**

## OPENER ABILITY, IMPORTANCE ENSURED HIS CONTRACT DIDN’T GET RIPPED UP, SAYS CLARKE

**Sydney:** Former captain Michael Clarke has observed that David Warner’s extraordinary talent went a long way in ensuring that the opener’s contract with Cricket Australia didn’t get “ripped up” despite off-field issues. “Davey has always been a tough character, someone I loved having in the team, that intent, that aggressive approach,” Clarke told ESPN. “But he was the same off the field, a little bull, and got into a little bit of trouble along the way.”

Clarke was Australia’s captain in 2013 when Warner was suspended for his altercation with Joe Root in a Birmingham bar, after which he missed the first two Tests of that year’s Ashes. “He had support and help from senior players and Cricket Australia that helped him not have his contract ripped up. There was a bit of a fight to keep him because he was so important to the team. Davey’s game has been learnt at the highest level, playing for Australia, which is not easy to do. He deserves credit.” **PTI**

**5** Australia have won five Tests, including the last three played in 2005, 2010 & 2017, lost two — one each in 1977 & 1995 — and drawn one out of eight Tests played against Pakistan in Sydney.

**3** hundreds were scored in Australia’s total of 538/8 declared in Sydney in 2017 — Matt Renshaw (184), David Warner (113) & Peter Handscomb (110) — the most by them in a Test innings vs Pakistan.

**76.89**

David Warner’s batting average while aggregating 1461, including six hundreds and four fifties, in 12 Tests against Pakistan. Just one Australian batter has a better average against Pakistan — 79.23 by Mark Taylor (1347 runs in 12 Tests; minimum qualification: 1200 runs).

—Stats: Rajesh Kumar

## WARNER MAKES PLEA TO RETURN BAGGY GREENS

**Sydney:** Australia opener David Warner on Tuesday made an emotional plea on social media for the return of his Baggy Greens after the backpack containing the cherished possession was stolen in transit ahead of his swansong Test here. As a “last resort,” the 37-year-old took to Instagram so that he can walk out wearing the Baggy Green — the iconic cap worn by Australian Test cricketers — in his final Test at his hometown.

“Unfortunately, this is my last resort to do this. A couple of days ago, someone has taken my backpack out of my extra luggage,”

Warner said in a video post on Instagram. The bag is understood to contain two caps as Warner had been given a replacement when he had lost his original Baggy Green in 2017. “Inside this backpack was my Baggy Greens. That’s sentimental to me. I would love to have back, in my hands, walking out there. If it’s the backpack that you really wanted, I have a spare one. You won’t get into trouble. Please reach out to Cricket Australia or myself via my social media and I’m happy to give this to you if you return my Baggy Greens,” he added.

The backpack was taken from Warner’s luggage, which was flown out of Melbourne to Sydney by Qantas Airways. **PTI**

### GALLERY

#### CBI closes 2019 IPL betting cases over lack of evidence

**New Delhi:** The CBI is learnt to have closed its investigation in the two cases filed in connection with a network of individuals active in cricket betting who were allegedly trying to influence the outcome of IPL matches in 2013-2018. The cases, it was claimed, was based on inputs received from Pakistan.

The agency had initiated a probe against private individuals and “unknown public servants” in Delhi, Jodhpur, Jaipur and Hyderabad. Two FIRs were registered in May 2022. However, the probe hit a dead end due to lack of evidence, sources said.

“A reliable information has been received about a network of individuals involved in cricket betting influencing the outcome of Indian Premier League matches based on inputs received from Pakistan. In the garb of betting related to IPL matches, they are cheating the general public by inducing them for betting,” the FIR filed by the CBI had said.

“For this purpose, they have opened bank accounts (mule accounts) using fake identities and KYC documents in connivance with unknown bank officials. These bank accounts have been opened by submitting forged details such as multiple date of births and without due diligence done by the officials,” the FIR said. **TNN**

### ACTION TODAY

**BASKETBALL:** NBA, 5.30 am to 9.30 am (Jio); **CRICKET:** Australia vs Pakistan, Test 3, Day 1, 5 am (Star); South Africa vs India, Test 2, Day 1, 1.30 pm (Star); **FOOTBALL:** Real vs Mallorca, 11.45 pm; Girona vs Atletico, 2 am Thursday (Jio)

### ‘Have to show trust in Prasidh’

**Cape Town:** India skipper Rohit Sharma said he is not ready to lose faith in Prasidh Krishna’s ability to withstand the rigours of five-day cricket despite his lacklustre debut in the opening Test against South Africa.

Krishna was hammered for 93 runs in 20 overs on debut during the Centurion Test which India lost by an innings and 32 runs.

“We had brief chat with management as to what we want from this game from bowlers, we haven’t exactly finalized our eleven, all our players are fit and available. We will sit down and decide,” Rohit said when asked about potential changes and whether Mukesh Kumar has a chance to play. It seemed he wants to persist with Prasidh, who is not exactly known for his economy rate and has been leaking runs across formats. “Having said that I know we have a little bit of inexperience in bowling and when that happens, you got to show trust in them. That can happen with any team. Post last match, I said about Prasidh playing his first game. We all get nervous when you are playing your first game. It’s understandable.” **PTI**

### Aus PM praises Khawaja for showing courage amid stand-off with ICC

**Melbourne:** Australia’s Prime Minister Anthony Albanese has praised Usman Khawaja’s courage amid his stand-off with the ICC after expressing solidarity with the victims of the conflict between Palestine and Israel.

The ICC has barred the Australian opener from displaying messages of equality and freedom, specifically a dove logo and an olive branch on his shoes, during the Test series against Pakistan. “I’d like to congratulate (Khawaja) for the courage he has shown standing up for human values,” Albanese said.

“He has shown courage, and the fact that the team has backed him in is a great thing. When Ussie and Dave (David Warner) go out, it will be a very special moment, when you walk on to the SCG.” **PTI**

## Australia whitewash India, expose hosts’ fielding woes

Gaurav.Gupta@timesgroup.com

**Mumbai:** The Indian women’s team couldn’t have started 2024 on a worse note. Putting out a shambolic bowling, fielding and batting display in a long time, India suffered a humiliating 190-run thrashing at the hands of a relentless Australia in the third and final women’s ODI at the Wankhede Stadium on Tuesday.

More than the 3-0 series defeat, what should worry India — with two World Cups in

### ODI SERIES

the next two years — is their abysmal fielding standard, which is light years behind Australia.

“I don’t think there’s any reason (for the poor fielding). We need to accept what we’ve done. We’ve not played to our highest potential. And especially in the fielding department, we did a lot of work. We need to still continue. We have been working on it, but definitely not the standard expected for the Indian women’s cricket team, but I can assure you that we will work on it and come back stronger,” Indian batter Jemimah Rodrigues said later.

Two moments watching



**ON SONG:** Alyssa Healy and Phoebe Litchfield stitched together 189 runs for the opening wicket in the third ODI at the Wankhede Stadium

Australia’s sharp, athletic fielding stood out in complete contrast to what one saw in the afternoon, when India struggled to even stop the ball, let alone catch it. Australia’s Phoebe Litchfield virtually flew to her right at cover to pull off a stunner to send India’s Amanjot Kaur back to the pavilion. A few balls later, Tahila McGrath leapt high in the air to pluck out a catch to dismiss Shreyanka Patil off Annabel Sutherland.

Before they avenged their maiden defeat in the one-off Test against India at this ven-

ue with a clean sweep against the same opponents, the Aussies signed off with another moment of magic, as leg-spinner Alana King brought back the memories of her idol, spin wizard Shane Warne, by cleaning up Pooja Vastrakar’s stumps with one that pitched outside leg stump and turned viciously to hit the top of off stump.

**Brief scores:** Australia 338/7 (Phoebe Litchfield 119, Alyssa Healy 82; Shreyanka Patil 3-57) vs India 148 all out (Smriti Mandhana 29; Georgia Wareham 3-23, Annabel Sutherland 2-9).

## Sharing glory is just as good as earning it outright

Katie Moon

The past two years have been a roller coaster ride. Winning the Olympic gold medal in 2021 was a great high. It was the biggest thing an athlete could have ever won in sport and then to back it up with a gold in the World Championships was very satisfying. But the year leading up to the World Championships wasn’t easy mentally or emotionally. It was tough.

I never really took a break after Tokyo and it’s what I needed. Time away from sports, and taking breaks when needed is very crucial.

When I decided to share my gold medal at the World Championships this year with a fellow athlete from Australia as both of us cleared 4.90 meters, many around

the world questioned my intent while there were also those who said the gesture won their hearts. I just feel that as athletes, we put in so much effort through the year and sharing glory is just as good as earning it outright.

(THE WRITER IS THE OLYMPIC CHAMPION & TMM 2024 INTL. EVENT AMBASSADOR)

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TATA MUMBAI MARATHON 2024

## Nadal returns with win in Brisbane

**Brisbane:** Rafael Nadal was elated to return to professional tennis on Tuesday after nearly a year on the sidelines but the Spaniard said recovering his confidence and natural movements on the court would take time.

Nadal marked his singles comeback after hip surgery with a 7-5, 6-1 victory over Aus-

trian former world number three Dominic Thiem in the Brisbane International first round, with the 22-times major winner showing he was far from done with the sport.

Nadal’s last match was at the Australian Open in January 2023 and he sat out the rest of the season after undergoing hip surgery. **REUTERS**



## Asiad medallists Bajrang, Antim & Kiran opt out of Zagreb Open

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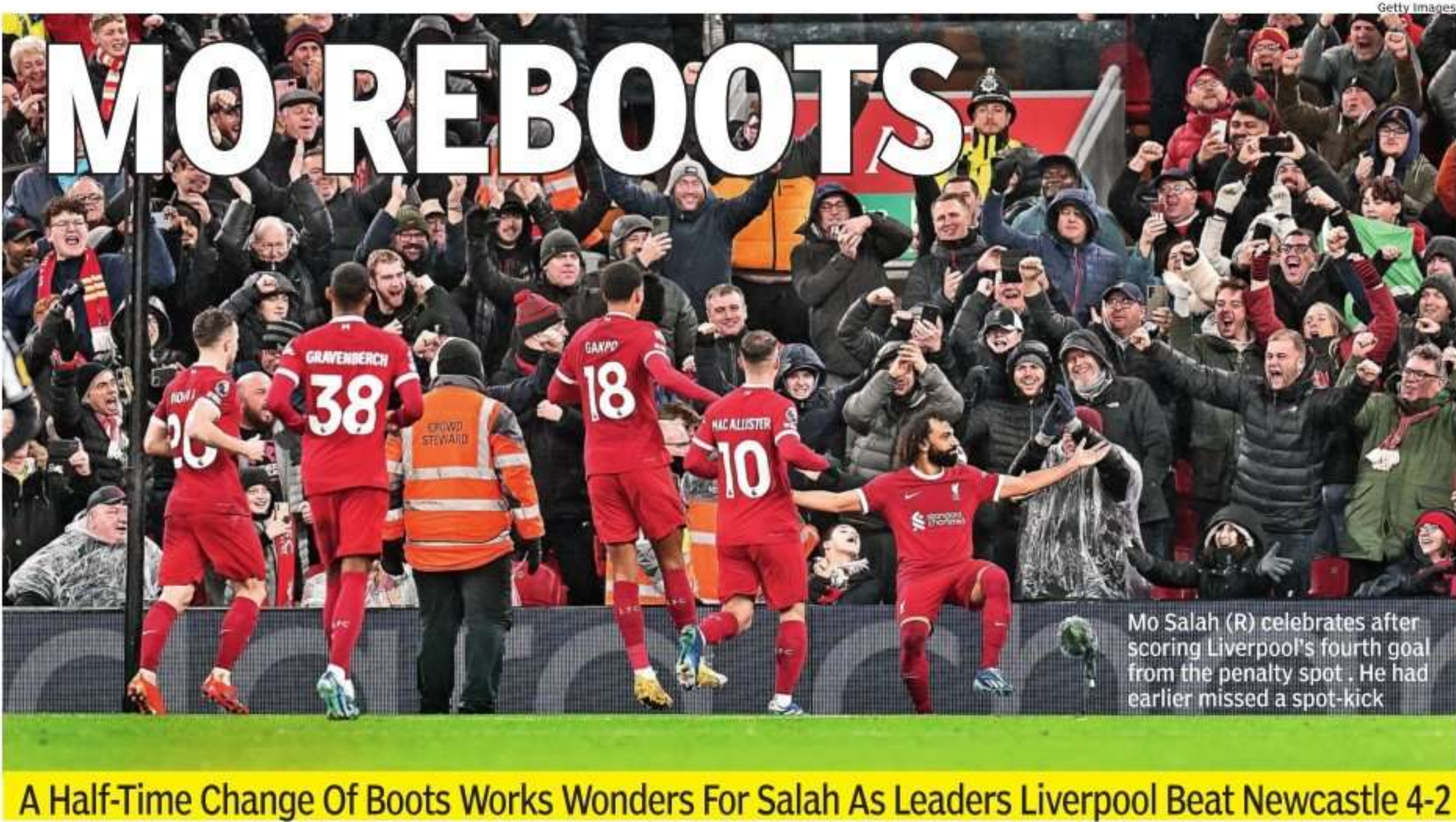
**New Delhi:** Five out of the 18 Indian wrestlers who participated at the Hangzhou Asian Games last year, have opted out of the Zagreb Open after expressing their inability to travel for the meet due to different reasons. The wrestlers include Bajrang Punia (65kg), Pooja Gehlot (50kg), Antim Panghal (53kg), Mansi Ahlawat (57kg) and Kiran (76kg).

All these weight categories will go unrepresented at the ranking series tournament, which will be the first international competition for Indian grapplers in 2024. Antim and Kiran won bronze in Hangzhou. Among the Asiad medallists, men's freestyle wrestlers Aman Sehrawat (57kg) and Deepak Punia (86kg), greco-roman wrestler Sunil Kumar (87kg) and women's freestyle division's Sonam Malik (62kg) have given their consent to participate in Zagreb.

The Indian Olympic Association (IOA)-appointed three-member ad-hoc committee – mandated to run the day-to-day affairs of the suspended Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) – set the ball rolling for this year's Paris Olympics after picking a 13-member team for the Zagreb Open – to be held from January 10 to 14. Only the Asian Games participants were considered for selection by the ad-hoc committee and their entries were sent to the organisers after confirming their availability.

According to sources, Antim declined to participate since she was keen on attending the National Sports Day awards function at the Rashtrapati Bhawan on January 9, along with fellow greco-roman grappler Sunil Kumar. Both have been chosen for this year's Arjuna award.

According to a release by ad-hoc committee chairman, Bhupender Singh Bajwa, the team was cleared to fly after issues related to procurement of visas were looked into by the ministry of external affairs (MEA). A total of 25-member Indian wrestling contingent has been cleared for the tournament.



A Half-Time Change Of Boots Works Wonders For Salah As Leaders Liverpool Beat Newcastle 4-2

**Liverpool:** Mohamed Salah credited a half-time change of boots after scoring twice to send Liverpool three points clear at the top of the Premier League with a 4-2 win over Newcastle.

The Egyptian, playing in his final game before heading off to represent his country at the Africa Cup of Nations (AFCON), had seen a first-half penalty saved by Martin Dubravka.

All six goals at Anfield arrived in the second half as Salah opened the floodgates with a simple tap in for his 150th Premier League goal for the Reds. He then played his part in teeing up goals for Curtis Jones and Cody Gakpo as Jurgen Klopp's men cut loose.

And Salah took responsibility once more from the penalty spot

to secure the points four minutes from time. "The ones I missed the penalty with I just trained with yesterday. It's not superstition, because I play with many boots, but when I feel like it's going to be in my head, it's out, get new boots. "I don't like to be going to the second half thinking 'I haven't scored in them'. Just change, make my mind calm and focus on my game."

Salah also said the thought of leaving for AFCON on the back of failing to score spurred him on in the second period. Liverpool racked up a Premier League record of 7.53 expected goals, but Salah was not the only one guilty of being wasteful in front of goal as it took until late in the game to secure victory.

"The players spoke at half-time. We have to stay calm, play our football, we missed a lot of chances, I missed the penalty. I thought 'are you going to be leave for the national team with that performance?'" added Salah.

"I just had to really focus, step up and make the difference and managed to do so."

Salah could now miss Liverpool's next four Premier League games depending on how far the Pharaohs progress in the Ivory Coast. But he backed his understudies to keep Liverpool's title charge on course for his return.

"Without me I'm sure the players will manage to win the games. Anyone can do what I am doing. Everyone just needs to feel free of the pressure to express themselves."

### LIVERPOOL FIXTURES SALAH COULD MISS DUE TO AFCON

**FA Cup:** Arsenal (a) on January 7

**Premier League:** Bournemouth (a) on January 21; Chelsea (h) on January 31; Arsenal (a) on February 4; Burnley (h) on February 10.

**Carabao Cup:** Fulham (h) Jan 9 or 10; Fulham (a) Jan 23 or 24

### Klopp briefly loses wedding ring in post-match Liverpool celebrations

Jurgen Klopp's joy turned into dismay when he briefly lost his wedding ring in the post-match celebrations. It needed the sharp eye of a TV cameraperson to locate the ring. "Oh my God, that would have been really awful," Klopp said. "I lost it once—I needed a pro diver because it was in the sea." AGENCIES

### BORA MILUTINOVIC GIVES PEP TALK TO INDIAN TEAM

**Doha:** The Indian team got a much-needed pep talk from coaching great Bora Milutinovic, who visited the players during a training session in the run-up to the Asian Cup. The 79-year-old former Serbian player has been a manager at five editions of the World Cup.

Goalkeeper Gurpreet Singh Sandhu was in awe of the former coach. "He asked us, 'what is the most important action in a game?' He went on to answer: 'It is the next action.' That really struck deep," he said. "If you score, your next action is to defend; if you concede, your next action is to attack."

"He used certain words and phrases that made a big impact on me," said defender Sandesh Jhingan. PTI

## TOP 5 HIGHEST TEAM EXPECTED GOALS

Liverpool accumulated an **Expected Goals (xG)** total of 7.27. This means based on the quality of the chances they created, they should have scored at least three goals more than they did. Incredibly, their xG total is the highest ever produced by a team in a Premier League match, since such data became available in 2010/11.

Match	Date	xG
Liverpool 4-2 Newcastle	01-01-2024	7.27
Man City 8-0 Watford	21-09-2019	5.87
Liverpool 6-0 Leeds	23-02-2022	5.87
Man U 4-1 Chelsea	25-05-2023	5.22
Man City 6-0 QPR	10-05-2015	5.2

## ADVANTAGE CITY AS RIVALS LOSE STARS TO AFCON, ASIAN CUP

**London:** Manchester City could have an advantage in the Premier League title race through January as their rivals face up to losing key players to the African Cup of Nations and Asia Cup.

While Liverpool will lose Egyptian Mohamed Salah and Tottenham Hotspur will have to make do without South Korea's Son Heung-min, champions Manchester City will be unaffected.

City manager Pep Guardiola does not have a single player jetting off to either the Ivory Coast or Qatar for the continental tournaments that start on Jan. 13 and Jan. 12 respectively and run for almost a month.

Leaders **Liverpool** will wave goodbye to Salah who with 14 goals is the joint-top scorer in the Premier League this season, equal with Erling Haaland. They will also be missing combative midfielder Wataru Endo who will join up with Japan. Surprise title challengers **Villa** will only lose squad player Bertrand Traore to Burkina Faso but fourth-placed Arsenal will be harder hit with Mohamed Elneny (Egypt), Thomas Partey (Ghana) and Takehiro Tomiyasu (Japan) all heading off for an unspecified amount of time.

**Tottenham** have been bedevilled by injuries in the last couple of months and now manager Ange Postecoglou will have to adapt to captain Son, who has scored 12 league goals, representing South Korea. Tottenham also lose midfielder Yves Bissouma to Mali while Pape Sarr, who was injured against Bournemouth on Sunday, is part of Senegal's squad.

Resurgent **West Ham**, who are in sixth place, will be hampered by the loss key Ghanaian midfielder Mohammed Kudus. **Manchester United's** under-pressure manager Erik Ten Hag could do without losing Andre Onana (Cameroon), Sofyan Amrabat (Morocco) and Amad Diallo (Ivory Coast) as he tries to turn around what has been a dreadful season so far. REUTERS

## India over-rated in Test & T20s, says Srikanth

**New Delhi:** India is an "over-rated" team in the longest format as many players in the current Test set-up have not performed to their potential, feels former opener Kris Srikkanth. Srikkanth's comments comes a few days after India suffered an embarrassing innings defeat in the first Test match against South Africa at Centurion. "Test cricket, we are over-rated," Srikkanth said on his youtube channel. "I think it was a phase of 2-3 years...when Virat Kohli was the captain of the team, we were outstanding. Wedominated in England, we fought hard in South Africa, we won in Australia. We had a good phase for 2-4 years," Srikkanth said.

India have reached the finals in the last two editions of the World Test Championships but Srikkanth feels it is time to forget about the ICC rankings. "We have to forget ICC rankings. We are always 1-2, 1-2. It's a combination of having over-rated cricketers and people who have not performed up to their potential. Or some players have not enough chances like Kuldeep (Yadav)," Srikkanth said.

Talking about India's performance in white-ball cricket, he said: "In T20 cricket India are highly over-rated. ODI cricket, we are a fantastic team. What happens in ODIs, in the semifinals, finals, it's just a one-off match. It's a luck factor, a lot depends on luck in these matches."

"I read Rohit Sharma's statement, for a cricketer, the 50-over World Cup is a huge achievement. We sometimes underperform in the knockout matches, in the semifinals and the final. But we are a gun side in ODI," he added. PTI

## Men's hockey team to play 4-nation meet in SA

**New Delhi:** The Indian men's hockey team will take part in a four-nation tournament featuring France, the Netherlands and hosts South Africa from January 14 as part of the side's preparations for the Paris Olympics. Ahead of the tournament, a 39-member core group will train at the national coaching camp, beginning at the Sports Authority of India campus in Bengaluru on Wednesday. PTI

## Dawood Ibrahim childhood home to be auctioned in Mumbai on Fri

Mateen Hafeez | TNN

**Mumbai:** Four properties in Khed taluka in Ratnagiri district which are in the name of fugitive terrorist Dawood Ibrahim's mother Amina Bi will be auctioned by authorities on Friday. All the four properties are agricultural and are located in Khed's Mumbake village, where Dawood and his siblings spent some part of their childhood.

The auction, which will take place in Mumbai, will be carried out by the competent authority and administrator of the Smugglers and Foreign Exchange Manipulators (Forfeiture of Property) Act or Safema, which is under the Union ministry of finance.

In the past nine years, 11 properties belonging to Dawood or his kin have already been auctioned by the Safema authorities. The four properties to be auctioned now have a total reserve price of Rs 19.2 lakh. The first property has an area of 10,420.5 sq m (reserve price Rs 9.4 lakh), the second is 8,953 sq m (reserve price Rs 8 lakh), the third is around 171 sq m (reserve price Rs 15,440) and the fourth property has an area of 1,730 sq m (reserve price Rs 1.5 lakh).

The auction will be held in three modes — e-auction, public auction and tender in sealed envelope — simultaneously under supervision of the Safema competent authority.

The four properties were confiscated by the authorities years ago and are being sold on 'as is where is' and 'as is what is' basis, according to Safema authorities. It will be the responsibility of the successful bidder to get the property transferred in his/her/their name, they said. Bidders have been instructed to submit a separate earnest money deposit for each mode of auction, and the last date of submission of 'participation form' is January 3, Wednesday (till 4 pm).

Earlier, there were reports that Dawood had been allegedly poisoned in Pakistan, but his close aide Chhota Shakeel had rubbished the reports.

# As teen gets a stent, docs point to trend of premature heart attacks

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Mumbai:** When 18-year-old Kumar's (not his real name) parents took him to the emergency room of a Malad hospital with complaints of chest pain and mild sweating, they were unprepared for the diagnosis: Heart attack.

Their son was athletic, played cricket every day and none of their near relatives had had a heart attack. But the ECG reading, the 2-Decho scans and elevated levels of enzymes pointed to such an emergency that Kumar needed a stent in his left anterior descending (LAD) artery.

He isn't the only teen to get a heart attack (see box). Research data has shown Indians get heart attacks a decade before Caucasians but the age of onset of heart disease seems to be falling, say doctors.

"Kumar should be seen as a success story because he got quick treatment as compared to the other children in Indore and Jaipur," said cardiologist Dr Abhishek Wadkar from Criticare Asia Hospital in Malad who treated the teenager. The doctor

## AGE OF ONSET OF HEART DISEASE FALLING

**Indian scenario**  
> India has one of the highest burdens of cardiovascular disease (CVD) worldwide  
> Annual CVD deaths in India: 2.26m in 1990 or 15.2% of all deaths

**2) Heart attacks & youth**  
**Dec 19:** A 17-year-old girl from Indore died of heart attack after dinner. She had typhoid 4 months back

**Dec 25:** A Class 9 student died of a heart attack in school in Jaipur post R-Day rehearsals

**Govt take**  
> ICMR in Nov 2023 released 1.5-yr-long study on rise in sudden deaths among young Indians; reasons to post-Covid hospitalisation, binge drinking, intense unaccustomed activity

> It ruled out Covid vaccination as the cause



**The debate**  
One school of thought was that Covid vaccination was making people, especially younger ones, more prone to heart attacks

found 80% blockage in Kumar's LAD after removing a huge clot. "The patient experienced immediate on-table relief from chest pain after the stent was placed at the site of blockage," he said. The doctor found Kumar consumed junk food almost daily, resulting in elevated cholesterol levels. "He will need cardiac rehabilitation for a few months before re-

turning to normal activities," said the doctor.

Dr Wadkar said the age of onset of heart attack has sharply reduced in recent times. "When I was a student, we would be surprised if we found 30-year-olds among the patients, but now we regularly find people in their late twenties with heart disease," he said.

It was believed the Covid

vaccination played a role in triggering premature heart attacks among Indians, but findings of an Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) study in November 2023 negated this theory. It blamed the Covid virus, which is known to predispose a patient to thrombotic (formation of blood clots in veins and arteries) as well as lifestyle reasons.

Senior cardiologist Dr Brian Pinto said "there is definitely a post-Covid effect at work" in youths suffering heart attacks. "If the same patient has increased levels of stress or poor sleep, then the risk is higher," said Dr Pinto.

Dr Ajay Mahajan, who heads the cardiology department of KEM Hospital in Parel, said whenever a young patient comes in with chest pain nowadays, one has to suspect a clot (against the usual cause of plaque buildup). "Not all young people need a stent as they do well with clot-busters," he said, adding one should also suspect hyperhomocysteinemia (buildup of an amino acid called homocysteine that damages artery lining).

## Day after C'garh firing, Maoists seek probe into baby's death

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Raipur:** A day after a six-month-old girl was killed and her mother injured after being caught in a crossfire during an encounter between Maoists and security forces in Chhattisgarh's Bijapur, the Naxals on Tuesday demanded a judicial inquiry, alleging that the mother and baby were shot when police fired on villagers protesting the felling of trees.

Bastar Police were yet to react to the Maoist statement. Maoist's West Bastar division committee secretary Mohan alleged, "Within three days of opening a new police camp in Kavada, the forces killed a newborn." Ironically, an outlawed insurgent outfit seems to trust the judicial process of the state it's fighting against.

According to police, the infant and her mother Massi Vadde, 30, were hit by bullets during a firefight between Maoists and security personnel near Mutvandi village. Two DRG constables, Nilesh Tirkey and Umesh Patel, were severely injured in the gun battle.

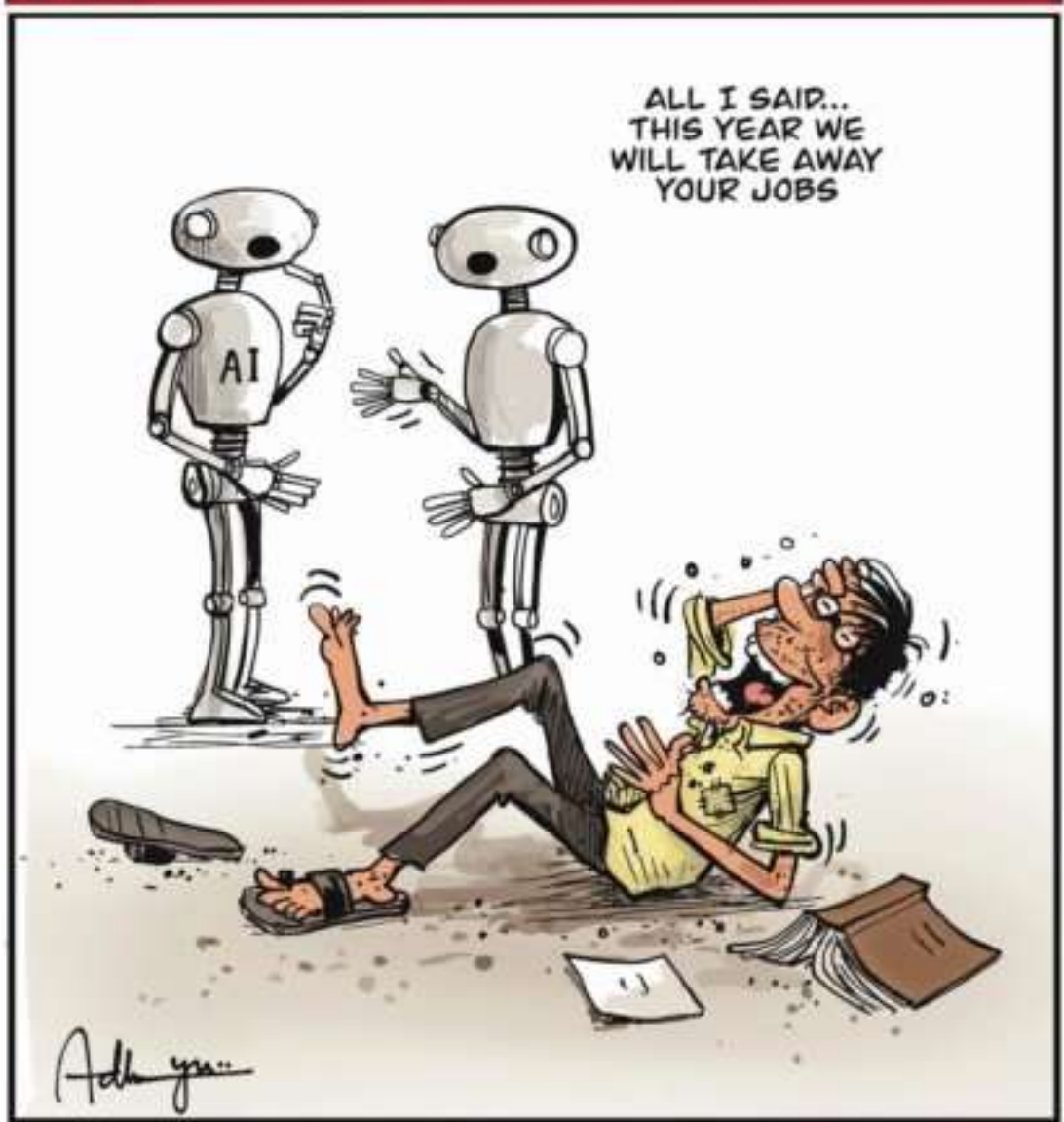
The Maoists claimed that police fired upon villagers who were protesting deforestation for a road project between Kavada, where a new police camp has been established, and Mutvandi.

## 2 students dupe banker of ₹21L with UK job offer

**Mumbai:** The cyber crime police have arrested two BTEch students from a university in Punjab for allegedly cheating a 47-year-old assistant general manager of a private bank in the western suburbs of Rs 21 lakh with the lure of a general manager's job in a London bank, reports **Mateen Hafeez**.

Three more accused, who had withdrawn money from various ATMs, are on the run. Police have frozen 12 accounts belonging to the accused and recovered Rs 1 lakh cash.

## TOI LINE OF NO CONTROL SANDEEP ADHWARYU



# Prior & post facto green nods can't co-exist, SC told

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**New Delhi:** Prior and post facto environment clearance for projects cannot co-exist as they are "mutually destructive and an oxymoron", petitioners told the SC on Tuesday, challenging the validity of an office memorandum of the ministry of environment, forest and climate change allowing post facto clearances.

Environment impact assessment for a project "can only take place before commencement of activity and not after, and that the EC is an approval which is taken prior to commencement of activity and emanates from precautionary principle which is one of the cornerstones of environmental jurisprudence", senior advocate Gopal Shankaranarayanan told the bench. In 2017, the government provided a six-month window for alleged violators to apply for post facto clearances.

This was stayed by the Madras HC. On July 7, 2021, the ministry issued standard operating procedures for

processing EIA applications allowing ex post facto environment clearance through the back door, leading to the HC staying its operation. "When an independent question of one Bokaro project came up in the SC in December 2021, the SC said although the Madras HC stay was not challenged, it anyway applied only to Tamil Nadu," Shankaranarayanan said.

"Using this observation, the ministry issued an OM on January 28, 2022, saying SC had restricted the HC's interim order only to Tamil Nadu and started clearing a whole bunch of mining projects with ex-post facto clearance," he claimed.

The NGO, while challenging the validity of the office memorandum, had sought a direction to the ministry and state environment impact assessment authorities "not to process and entertain any application for grant of ex post facto environment clearance on applications filed after April 13, 2018 (the window permitted under the March 14, 2017 notification as extended by the Madras HC).